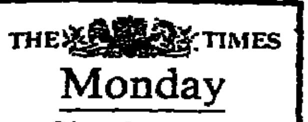
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THE TIMES

No 61,767 — SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25 1984 — 20p



Monday

The Olympics
Does the Olympic flame still burn bright? Part one of a Spectrum Series



Bloody memorial
Trevor Fishlock visits Grenada's "museum of liberation", and sees a bloodstained shirt

Blitzkrieg
Ferdinand Mount looks at the Thatcher Blitzkrieg on middle class privilege

Women's theatre
Monday Page examines the trials and tribulations of women's theatre

Rugby
David Hands and Gerald Davies on Rugby competitions in England and Wales

Reprieve for Scott Lithgow

Hopes of saving the Scott Lithgow yard brightened after Britoil extended the deadline for cancelling its vital rig order with the Clydeside yard.

Trafalgar House is now ready for detailed talks with Britoil on completion of the North Sea rig, already two years late. The extension will give rival bidders more time to complete negotiations for the yard Page 21

Kidnap charge

A man aged 27 has been charged with kidnapping Mr Ravindra Mhatre, aged 48, the Indian assistant commissioner in Birmingham who disappeared and was found dead in Leicestershire.

Yards shake-up

The Royal Dockyards may soon face competition from private yards for some warship refit work, after their efficiency was criticized by the Comptroller and Auditor General Page 2

Benn prediction

Mr Tony Benn said a landslide Labour victory in Chesterfield will force the Prime Minister to change course or lead to her being ousted as Conservative Party leader Page 2

Basra shelled

Iranian troops shelled Basra and claimed to have seized the oil-rich Iraqi islands in the Al Hawizah marshes Page 5

Murder verdict

Norman Smith was found guilty of the murder of Susan Renhard, an art student, in the Derbyshire Peak District last June. He was ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure Page 3

Lyrical shares

The Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, west London, hopes to raise £100,000 to stage its most successful productions in the West End by offering shares which will attract full tax relief under the Business Expansion Scheme Family money, page 25

ETA jeered

Thousands of mourners chanted anti-ETA slogans at the funeral in San Sebastian of the assassinated Socialist politician, Enrique Casas Vila Page 6

Rugby return

Peter Winterbottom returns to the England Rugby Union team to play France next week. The flank forward missed last Saturday's match against Ireland because of a hip injury Page 30

Murray supports wider action over GCHQ ban

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Union leaders' anger over Mrs Thatcher's refusal to lift the union ban at GCHQ could spill over into direct defiance of labour laws.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said yesterday that he would support what could amount to unlawful secondary action by non civil service unions on a "day of action" next Tuesday. Civil servants have been urged to hold rallies, demonstrations and a half-day stoppage.

Speaking on Radio 4 yesterday, Mr Murray said: "If members of other unions support their civil service colleagues by acting in the same way, that will be OK by me."

Asked if that would be unlawful, he said: "I don't know. What I do know is that it is a call for just and proper action in defence of a freedom intrinsic to democracy. That is and must be, our paramount concern."

He urged all trade unionists to show their "outrage and repugnance" of government actions. The labour movement's anger over the ban was reinforced on Thursday when Mrs Thatcher met a union deputation and rejected guarantees on the maintenance of essential intelligence services at GCHQ.

Staff at the centre are exempted from the half-day strike.

Mr Murray's comments constitute the first time he has in effect supported defiance of the law in any specific dispute, although he has not acknowledged its illegality. He refused to countenance support for unlawful action in the *Stockport Messenger* dispute.

There is little doubt that the Cabinet will interpret strikes by unions outside the Civil Service as breaching the law on secondary action. There is little doubt the courts would agree.

However, it was not clear last night what support there would be for such stoppages, although Mr David Basnett, general secretary of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, told *The Times* that he wanted all his members, apart from those employed in essential services, to stage a half-day strike.

Support for industrial action outside the Civil Service grew when Mr Les Wood, general secretary of UCATT, the 280,000-strong construction workers union, called on members to strike for half a day on Tuesday.

In another development yesterday, the Council of Civil Service Unions promised to make up the pay of anyone dismissed from GCHQ for refusing rto give up union membership.

All employees have been given until Thursday to renounce their right to union membership. If they do, thy will be given £1,000. The alternative is transfer, or dismissal.

Mr Bill McCall, chairman of the council's policy committee, said that the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, which meets in emergency session on Monday, would be asked to agree to financial support should it be needed.

Mr McCall said that initial legal opinion led them to believe the unions would have "good grounds" for taking the Government to court. He said anyone dismissed could count on union support in suing for damages for breach of contract.

Other legal action is planned through acts of human rights

If anyone was dismissed from GCHQ, there was little doubt it would provoke "intensive" industrial action throughout the Civil Service, Mr McCall said.

● Civil Service union officials last night told GCHQ staff: "keep your nerves, stay cool: there is safety in numbers". (Craig Seton writes).

Union leaders feel the Government's stand is putting great pressure on those who have not yet signed option forms to give up their union membership or seek a transfer.

Last night in Cheltenham they organized another staff meeting and for the first time since the dispute began, barred the press because members canted advice on what to do next.

Officials want to convince staff that the March 1 deadline for signing the forms will not mark the beginning of dismissals for those refusing to sign. They believe that Mr Peter Marychurch, director of GCHQ, has been given considerable leeway on when to introduce the ban.



Closed forum: Mr Cecil Parkinson, who was jostled, pelted with eggs and prevented from speaking at Essex University in Colchester yesterday.

Big cut in home loan rate unlikely

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Hopes of a big cut in the mortgage rate after the Budget have been undermined by the government's decision to squeeze more tax out of the building societies. There is still a good chance that rates will come down from the present 11.25 per cent but by less than they would have done and the 25 million savers with building societies may also suffer.

The tax increase, sprung on the societies late on Thursday by the Inland Revenue, will add to the pressure on building society margins and the Building Societies Association has now called an emergency meeting on March 16, three days after the Budget, to discuss changes to its rate structure.

Building society chiefs were still smarting yesterday under the severity of the tax change which covers the way their profits on government stocks are taxed. It could double the societies' tax bill and the association spelt out the consequences in a letter to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor.

It said: "This new charge must be passed on either to borrowers in the form of a higher mortgage rate or to savers in the form of a lower investment rate. The prospect of a mortgage reduction within the next month or so is now clearly diminished and at the least any reduction will be less than would otherwise have been the case."

The association also warned the Chancellor that a cut in investment rates could make mortgages scarcer because it would reduce the amount of money coming in and criticized the way the extra tax had been introduced.

After hearing the news on Thursday, building societies rushed to beat the midnight deadline for the tax change by selling off huge amounts of government stocks. The stockbrokers Phillips & Drew estimated that about £2.5 billion of gilts were unloaded, and there was heavy activity in the markets again yesterday.

The tax change means that societies are now taxed at 40 per cent on investment pro[fits] whereas before the profits w[ere] nearly all tax free. If the cha[nge] had been in force in 198[.] would have cost societies at £120m and possibly £160m [a] year.

Some building societies [are] considering whether to [take] legal advice and challenge [the] Inland Revenue's ruling in th[e] courts. However Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, confirmed on BBC's *The World at One* yesterday, that the move had full ministerial backing and the government had been careful to help societies by not applying the law to earlier years. This suggests that any legal challenge by societies would achieve little.

Family money, page 25

BA dispute delays 30,000

By Our Labour Reporter

More than 30,000 passengers will have been delayed by the 24-hour strike by British Airways crew at Heathrow airport. The protest is due to end today. Terminals were crowded with frustrated, but most of them were rebooked on other flights, according to the company.

Of the 1,000 stewards and stewardesses due at work yesterday only 50 turned up. The strike is in protest at a pay offer worth per cut over two years.

It is understood that only eight of the airlines 149 departures left Heathrow.

Out of 141 arrivals only 39 managed to get in to the airport.

These totals include all overseas European and domestic services, scheduled to be operated by British Airways through Heathrow.

British Airways, which put the cost of the action at £4m, said last night that they expected most flights would be back to normal today, but there may be some delays.

The action by a total of 4,500 members of the British Airways Stewards and Stewardesses Association, a branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union, was the first of a planned campaign of 24-hour strikes.

The cabin crews are protesting about a two-year pay deal worth 4 per cent this year and 5 per cent in 1985 linked to a profit-sharing scheme.

The only other group to reject the offer are the 6,700 engineering and maintenance workers, who have been asked by their leaders to stage an all-out strike, or accept the deal. It was understood that they had pledged they would not refuel some flights using "blackleg" cabin crews.

The union has said that yesterday's strike would be the first among many unless the company reopened negotiations. No meetings between the two sides are planned.

Mr Michael Coleman, shop steward for short haul cabin crews, said: "The disruption to passengers is totally regrettable. All we want is a decent living wage."

Israelis open fire on Arab civilians

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

As a Saudi-sponsored ceasefire took effect along the front line in Beirut yesterday, thousands of Shia Muslims in southern Lebanon demonstrated in village streets and mosques after Israeli troops had opened fire amid a crowd of civilians in the village of Maarake.

Police reports from the area spoke of up to four dead and 25 civilians wounded by the Israelis after stones had been thrown at a convoy of their military vehicles. Local Israeli officers, who originally said that no one had been hurt, were reported last night to have conceded that at least two civilians were wounded.

A spokesman for the United Nations force, which patrols that area of southern Lebanon, said that he had heard one man had died and 11 other civilians had been injured in the incident, which is sure to worsen even further the already embittered relations between Israel's occupation forces and the Shia Muslim population of southern Lebanon.

Only a week ago, Shaikh Rageb Harb, the Shia leader in the neighbouring village of Jibchit and an outspoken critic of the Israelis, was murdered near his home and local villagers blamed Israeli agents for the killing.

A broadcast on Beirut state radio said that a convoy of 30 Israeli vehicles had arrived in Maarake and that troops had begun arresting youths in the village. The shooting, the radio said, broke out after crowds of villagers had gathered beside their mosque and thrown stones at the soldiers. United Nations units reported hearing four loud explosions after the Israelis cordoned off the village.

The United Nations reported that Israeli ambulances and helicopters were taking casualties from Maarake to hospitals in Sidon and Tyre. Soon afterwards, a hand grenade was thrown at an Israeli patrol in the main square in Sidon; the Israelis later said none of their men had been hurt.

There were a few infractions of the Beirut truce towards evening as rocket-propelled grenades were fired across the "green line" dividing the city but, rather remarkably in view of the capital's hundreds of other doomed ceasefires, most of the militias obeyed the orders to stop shooting.

The Syrians had given their support to the truce although the Saudis made it clear in Damascus yesterday that no political initiative was involved in the ceasefire arrangements: which means that neither side in Beirut is likely to feel much need to abide by them.

Delhi alerts troops to move into Punjab

Delhi (Reuter) – The Indian Army has been ordered to stand by ready to move into the state of Punjab if the situation worsens, official sources said last night. The death toll in four days of sectarian strife there rose to 35.

Two more people were shot dead and at least six seriously wounded yesterday in three separate extremist attacks, the Press Trust of India news agency reported.

The official sources said Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, heading a crisis committee of top officials, was seeking ways to contain the growing violence. The Army had been alerted to move if the situation worsened.

Paramilitary patrols have been stationed on Delhi's outskirts to prevent Punjab extremists from infiltrating the capital.

Fresh paramilitary reinforcements arrived in the state yesterday as curfews in force for 11 days in six main Punjab towns were again extended. District administrators ordered shops to close by dusk. Rail patrols were increased, armed guards put on trains and passengers searched for weapons at stations.

Tory trio face three hostile receptions

By Staff Reporters

The Prime Minister and two of her senior colleagues faced hostile receptions at three separate venues yesterday.

An egg hit Mrs Margaret Thatcher's car in Warwick; Mr Cecil Parkinson was prevented by a jeering mob from speaking to Essex University students; and Mr Norman Tebbit was told to get on his bike in Nottingham.

The Prime Minister smiled throughout her ordeal; the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry turned his misfortune to advantage; but Mr Parkinson, Mr Tebbit's predecessor, was jostled, kicked and pelted with eggs and tomatoes in Colchester.

Mrs Thatcher's Daimler was also showered with paper peace doves when she arrived to a noisy reception at Warwick University to open a new high technology science building.

One man was dragged from a crowd of about 600 students protesting against education spending cuts and arrested, but Mrs Thatcher's opponents did not have it all their own way: Conservative students chanted "Cruise On".

The Prime Minister, who kept smiling throughout her three-hour visit, said she thought the students were well behaved.

Mr Parkinson was pelted with eggs and rotten tomatoes when he tried to enter a lecture theatre at Essex to speak to a Conservative students meeting.

The former Conservative chairman tried to reason with the mob, but his words were drowned. After consultations with police and university officials the meeting was abandoned.

Essex University said later many of the demonstrators had no connexion with the university.

Mr Tebbit, who was touring Raleigh of Nottingham, the world's largest bicycle factory, told a group of workers chanting "On yer bike" that his famous remark might have helped to sell more bicycles



Mrs Thatcher: Smiled throughout her ordeal

Traffic on move as blockade ends

By Our Foreign Staff

Traffic began to move again through France yesterday as the French lorry drivers lifted nearly all the blockades which have paralysed roads for the past nine days after a call from their leaders to abandon their action.

Only six blockades remained late yesterday of the 200 in place the previous day, but it is going to be some days before traffic gets back to normal. Huge convoys of long-distance juggernauts began moving along the main Alpine motorway linking France and Italy as Italian customs officers, whose go-slow sparked off the original protest, resumed normal working. The Brenner Pass between Austria and Italy was still blocked, however, by angry Austrian drivers demanding a complete reorganization of the Italian customs system.

In an effort to clear the roads as quickly as possible, Britain, Germany and France have suspended the normal ban on Sunday driving in Europe, and the regulations on the number of hours drivers may spend at the wheel.

Some French drivers abandoned their blockades only reluctantly after their unions' appeal, but an ever-growing number, cold and weary, had already begun to pull out. The two main organisations, The National Road Transport Federation, and Unostra, made their decision after M Jacques Delors, the Acting Prime Minister, had promised them talks beginning on Monday if the blockades ended.

The drivers began their blockade last week in the wake of industrial action by customs officers on both side of the Franco-Italian border, and it quickly escalated, in to Europe's worst ever traffic jam affecting France, Italy, Britain, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, West Germany and the Netherlands.

They are demanding quicker and tighter control on border crossing procedures, compensation for time lost during the customs dispute, and a cut in fuel oil tax.

Talks took place earlier this week between the Transport Ministers M Charles Fiterman and drivers' representatives. The Government put forward a nine-point plan incuding revised crossing procedures and compensation. But the negotiation stalled on the fuel oil issue.

M Delors has now promised to discuss increasing the haulage industry's competitiveness by cutting VAT on diesel fuel, and to consider measures to improve the driver's conditions of work.

There was little new in what he said, but M Delors, who is

Continued on back page, col 6

Rebels hold 16 Britons in Angola

By Our Foreign Staff

Unita, the Angolan rebel movement claimed yesterday to have captured 77 foreign technicians including 16 Britons and 46 Portuguese, in an attack on a diamond mine at Kafunfu in the north east of the country.

In a statement issued in Lisbon yesterday the South African-backed movement said that the hostages would be marched south adding "any intervention by land or air against the column of hostages will have serious repercussions on the captives".

The communiqué also hinted that conditions would be set for the release of the Britons. This condition may be the release of the seven British mercenaries in prison in Luanda since 1976.

A spokesman for Mining and Technical Services (MATS), the company for which the British technicians work, said that from th Unita communiqué two of them were identifiable as Me Neil Ayres, a geologist from Bristol andMr Thomas Murphy an engineer. Two others named as Mr Robert Clauso and Mr Robin Kennedy are thought to work for Intraco and American company which services mining equipment.

The spokesman said there may have been some fighting and casualties but none among MATS staff. There was no news of the Defence Systems International personnel, former SAS men, who lived on the mine ostensibly to curb diamond smuggling.

The Kafunfu mine operated by the state-owned Diamang Company is a long way west of the main mining areas and far more vulnerable. Kafunfu itself is the headquarters of an extensive operation which involves diverting a river and

Continued on back page, col 1

Libyan students occupy London embassy

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

A group of students have seized control of the Libyan Embassy in London and are threatening to "break off diplomatic relations" with Britain unless Mrs Thatcher's government mends its ways in the Middle East.

"Things cannot go on the way they are," a spokesman said yesterday at the elegant St James's Square embassy – officially described as a people's bureau – in London.

The Revolutionary Students Force in Britain marched on the building last weekend, apparently dissatisfied with the performance of the ruling political committee, under its secretary-general, Mr Adem Kuwiri.

News of their bloodless coup, said to have been carried out in accordance with resolutions at this month's General People's Congress in Tripoli, emerged only yesterday.

Colonel Gaddafi, Libya's leader, was not consulted before the students' action. But the new team in St James's Square seems confident that the coup will have his blessing. "He always approves of popular movements," said the spokesman, who explained that he was the bureau's press attaché.

The students' "temporary committee said at their first press conference that they wanted to improve Libya's relations with Britain and the West.

"But we look to Britain's intransigence in her hostile position towards the Libyan Arab People, her alignment with the enemies of the Arab nation and her continued intervention in the Arab people's internal affairs. These will be met with a stronger and more forceful stand and Britain alone will bear the responsibility for any consequences," they said in a statement.

British support for American policies which are "unfriendly" to the Arab people and the Government's preparedness to "harbour" enemies of Colonel Gaddafi's regime, seem to be the main causes of discontent.

The students refused to give their names or other details to to say how many they represented. One reporter who pointed out that they looked rather old to be students, was promptly told: "We are all post-graduates." All claimed to come from British universities and polytechnics.

The building certainly looked quiet enough, apart from the tramp of reporters' feet and the glare of television floodlight.

The Foreign Office too was taking it all very calmly. "We are aware of it," a spokesman said.

Jenkins is floated as Master of Trinity

By Peter Hennessy and Lucy Hodges

A name that would grace any high table is being floated as a possible replacement for Professor Sir Alan Hodgkin as Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. It is the wine and book-loving Mr Roy Jenkins, SDP MP for Glasgow, Hillhead, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary and President of the EEC Commission.

When asked at his home in East Hendred, Oxfordshire, whether he would take the job, he laughed and said: "I have not heard a word of it".

The mastership of Trinity is a Crown appointment. The Queen will approve a nominee recommended by the Prime Minister.

There is a precedent for an MP becoming Master of Trinity in Mr R Butler, former Home Secretary and Chancellor, who resigned from the Commons and took a peerage on his preferment in 1965.

The more cynical might see the attraction for Mrs Thatcher in "doing a Rab" on Mr Jenkins. It would, as one insider put it yesterday "completely neuter him" and create a by-election at Hillhead, formerly held by the Conservatives.

Mr Jenkins, probably the most accomplished belletrist in the Commons, biographer of H H Asquith and Clement Attlee, author of *Mr Balfour's Poodle*, a study of the Edwardian House of Lords and currently engaged on a life of Harry Truman, would be well-suited in terms of temperament and scholarship for Trinity. Though he is a Balliol man, which might be held against him in an austere university like Cambridge, traditionally sniffy about the worldly-wise politicos produced by Oxford.

There was indications yesterday from Mr Jenkins's friends that he did not want the job and would not accept it if proffered.

Some of the mystery of Sir Alan Hodgkin's failure to win re-election at the age of 70 has been dispelled. It was due in part to a Machiavellian ploy to keep out Professor Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, a former Dean of Trinity, former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University and chairman of the University Grants Committee since October.

Sir Peter is regarded by the ancient regime in Trinity as a bit of a radical who might interfere excessively in college life if elected.

Navy yards may face private competition for warship refits

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A Ministry of Defence announcement is expected shortly on the privatization of some of the warship refit work, worth £500m a year, done by the Royal Dockyards.

Sir Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, issued a critical Commons report yesterday on dockyard operations at Rosyth and Devonport.

An investigation by the National Audit Office found that managers were more concerned with meeting target dates than with costs, that naval staff who were responsible for placing orders were not accountable for costs, and that there was "a dearth of relevant and reliable performance measures".

Sir Gordon said: "Discussions are proceeding with British Shipbuilders and other defence contractors with the aim of placing some warship refitting work to contract so as to introduce the stimulus of competition. A decision on this is expected shortly."

The ministry has made no Commons statement, but a spokesman said yesterday that it was expected that refit work on a frigate and a convential submarine would be put out to tender later this year.

Sir Gordon's most graphic criticism was levelled at the amount of waiting time, when men were left without work to do, and overtime in the Royal Dockyards.

He reported that in some production areas in some weeks waiting time exceeded 40 per cent of the hours available. Some areas were averaging 20 per cent idleness for the whole of 1982-83, while overtime rates were marked.

Rosyth management had imposed a 5 per cent ceiling on overtime, but Devonport's ceiling was 15 per cent and the National Audit Office staff discovered some work areas which, in some weeks, were recording levels of 20 per cent for both waiting and overtime.

The report said: "My staff's examination indicated that a major determining factor in authorizing overtime work appeared to be the availability of funds in the dockyard budget." They even found cases where overtime increased.

But Sir Gordon concluded: "The absence of any means of measuring output has made it difficult to assess the effectiveness of overtime working and thus properly inform the decision to be made on the optimum levels of manpower and overtime for efficient dockyard operation."

No agreement on nuclear dumping

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

An attempt to get an agreement for the burying of highly radioactive waste in holes drilled in the seabed failed yesterday when the 32 countries attending the London Dumping Convention ended their annual meeting. But the subject may be reviewed next year.

This is the second year that the meeting has ended in disarray.

A two-year moratorium on dumping low-level waste in the Atlantic, adopted last year, has been extended by six months to allow a team of scientists to prepare a report on its impact. Drums of these wastes – glass, cloth, paper and similar contaminated items from hospitals, laboratories and power stations – are simply rolled over the side of a ship.

But it has been argued that since the methods for placing containers of highly active waste beneath the seabed is known as "seabed emplacement", it is not within the scope of the "dumping" convention.

The high level wastes from weapons and nuclear reactors remain lethal for hundreds of years. In Britain they are kept in bunkers at Sellafield, Cumbria. Eventually, then the level of radioactivity has declined significantly, the plan is to convert the waste into vitrified blocks. The problem still remains of where to store the glass blocks which would be thermally hot as well as radioactively "hot".



Friendly round: The Duke of Edinburgh talking to staff of the John Smith brewery at Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, yesterday, where he was presented with a cheque for £25,000 towards the Licensed Victuallers' Homes, of which he is patron.

Benn predicts Labour landslide

From Colin Hughes, Chesterfield

A landslide Labour victory in the Chesterfield by-election will force the Prime Minister to change course or be ditched as Conservative party leader, Mr Tony Benn said yesterday.

In his most cheerfully confident mood yet in the by-election campaign, Mr Benn, the Labour candidate, spoke of doubling or trebling the Labour majority, and said there had been a "sea change" in the Chesterfield electorate. "I am setting the sights high", he said.

Although Mr Benn refused to comment directly on opinion polls which yesterday gave him a lead of up to 21 per cent, he said there was no question that the campaign had "taken off".

If Chesterfield confirmed that Mrs Margaret Thatcher was doing fatal damage to the party she will be "put on warning that she has got to change her policy".

Conservatives worshipped their leaders until they failed to deliver the goods, and then they were pushed out. "If there were a landslide in Chesterfield the impact on government policy would de decisive. It would not be easy to present it as a freak."

Conservative campaign organizers described a Central Television opinion poll which gave them 14 per cent, as a disgraceful distortion. They said their canvass returns put them second with 27 per cent, although their spokesman admitted that they also showed Labour with a convincing lead at 42 per cent. All three parties are now fighting over the doubtfuls, which most polls are putting at about 15 per cent.

Dr David Owen, the Social Democrat leader, accepted that Mr Benn was well ahead, but said that voting patters would begin to change this weekend.

He said the only difference between Mr Neil Kinnock's policies and Mr Benn's was in packaging. He also warned voters that having Mr Benn's name constantly linked to Chesterfield would "stick in their throats" during the next four years.

Mr Benn had been the chief architect of Labour's new policies.

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, treated the idea of a Labour victory threatening the Prime Minister or Conservative policy as absurd he said: "Mr Kinnock fears Mr Benn more than I do."

Mr Tebbit believed the choice in Chesterfird lay between Mr Max Payne, the Liberal candidate, a "non creature" whose minders dare not let him speak; Mr Benn, who was a "carpet-bagging peer from the south of England"; or Mr Nicholas Bourne, the Conservative candidate.

General election: E G Varley (Lab) 25,881; N Bourne (C) 18,118; M Payne (L/All) 9,708. Lab maj 7,763.

Rebels are cautioned by Kinnock

From Our Correspondent Liverpool

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday warned the Labour majority on Liverpool City Council against the dangers of defying the law in their dispute with the Government over spending.

The council votes on March 29 on whether to approve a budget for 1984-85 which does not balance, rather than cut spending or raise the rates. This could lead to councillors being surcharged, made bankrupt and barred from public office.

Speaking on Tyneside yesterday, the Labour Party leader said: "It cannot be the case by removing themselves from office or by being removed from office Labour local representatives improve their position in trying to protect the people they were elected to serve."

His statement was seen as a serious setback to the Liverpool councillers' campaign to mobilize the labour movement in support of their defiant stance.

The council leader, Mr John Hamilton, said later: "Mr Kinnock is telling us to keep in line with the Labour Party, but he has not considered what alternatives there are left to us.

"He cannot possibly know all the details in every area in the country. There is still timer for him to change his mind and recognize the groundswell of public opinion."

The left-wing councillors suffered another blow yesterday when school teachers in the city voted not to join a one day "general" strike on March 29.

The National Union of Teachers' 2,000 members rejected a recommendation from officials to strike by a narrow majority.

Mr Hamilton, said the party was still confident of getting support from other unions.

Mr Shore: Returns to the attack on Oman.

Oman issue resurfaces

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mr Peter Shore, shadow leader of the Commons, returned to the attack yesterday over the involvement of the Thatcher family in the Cementation contract for a new university in Oman.

He has tabled two Commons questions, asking the *Prime* Minister to say when she first learned of Cementation's interest in the contract, and when she first learnt of her son's interest in the deal.

Mr Shore said that he was giving Mrs Thatcher a further chance to settle the matter once and for all. "The Oman Affair has dragged on long enough."

The Prime Minister would either answer the questions and swiftly dispel all doubt, or her refusal would create increasing interest in "standards of conduct in public affairs."

"It is indeed her failure hitherto to answer the simplest questions of fact that have served to feed suspicions and to cause the Prime Minister herself such evident and increasing embarrassment.

"To continue now to seek to evade and avoid answering these direct and legitimate questions would be a grave error of judgement.

Inquiry into outbreak of meningitis

By Richard Dowden and Michael Horsnell

An investigation has been launched into an outbreak of menngitis in Stroud, Gloucestershire, which has caused one death and claimed 27 victoms in two years, of that 27 menigits cases, 22 have suffered from a strain resistant to the traditional preventitive drugs.

The constant reemergence of the disease has dismayed parents of school children in the area. They are demanding more positive action from the local health authority.

The latest victim is eight-month-old Darren Gardiner, from the village of Bussage, near Stroud. Her condition was said yesterday to be fair in Gloucestershire Royal hospital.

A special meeting of Stroud District Council will discuss the outbreak next Thursday. A spokesman for the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre in Colindale said yesterday: "Twenty-seven cases in two years is not an unusual number. There are about 500 cases a year in Britain, mostly among young people.

US acts to halt fund-raising for IRA

From Richard Ford, Dunloy, co Antrim

The United States Government has decided to act against the Provisional IRA's fund-raising activities in the US at a time when the terrorists in Ireland are believed to be running short of funds.

The latest move involves the US customs service and the use of currency legislation against supporters of terrorism. Until now this has been used only against organized crime and drugs dealers.

A Currency Reporting Act prevents anyone entering or leaving the US without reporting amounts in excess of $5,000 (£3,350). Penalties for breaking the law involve confiscation and imprisonment.

Mr Charles Price, the American Ambassador to Britain, disclosing the new initiative, said it had recently been used against "those who would cause violence in Northern Ireland."

Mr Price, speaking in Belfast during a two-day factfinding visit, said the Irish Northern Aid Committee (Noraid) was one of the main targets of the Government's offensive.

"We started by digging into the records of known American couriers, financiers, and organizations such as Noraid. We have now identified others who were previously unknown."

He said the US Government wanted to confiscate funds destined for the IRA "thereby drying up the funds to buy arms".

The US hoped the new programme against fund-raising for the IRA would bring real results and any one who practised, assisted, or financed violence would not use the US as a base or harbour.

He told his audience, which included mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, that the US was backing its words with action. There had been court convictions for attempted gun-running with six convictions in one month in Brooklyn

● A huge police operation prevented a Provisional IRA paramilitary funeral yesterday for one of the gunmen shot dead during an SAS undercover operation.

About 150 RUC officers supported by the Ulster Defence Regiment, and the Army mounted a show of strength, in Dunloy, co Antrim for the funerals of the two terrorists shot dead four days ago. They were determined to prevent any Provisional IRA colour party or volley of shots being fired at the funeral of Henry Hogan.

Farmers are told of tough time ahead

By John Young Agriculture Correspondent

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of State for Agriculture, warned farmers last night that faced "a period of adjustment and difficulty.

"Indeed some will face as severe a challenge as badly-hit parts of our manufacturing industry have gone through in the past five years of tough economic adjustment", he said in Diss, Norfolk.

But Mr MacGregor, added that this was not "a time to snipe at our highly successful and productive agriculture, as in ill-considered attacks over recent months in certain sections of the media." The Government was determined to maintain a healthy farming industry.

Mr MacGregor repeated the assurance given by the Prime Minister in the Commons on Thursday that the Government did not propose to reopen the question of the rating of agricultural land and buildings.

By discarding the idea of introducing rates, the Government has restricted the options open to it in any attempt to curb farmers' alleged financial privileges. The official word from Downing Street is still that no review of farm subsidies is contemplated.

Sir Richard Butler, President of the National Farmers' Union, has described suggestions that farmers are exempt from value-added tax as "absolute bunk".

Farmers paid VAT on their purchases like any other small businesses, he pointed out.

● A retired couple complained yesterday of harassment by the Nature Conservancy Council over the designation of an unimproved hay meadow as a site of special scientific interest.

In a statement, the council deplored the action of Mr Raymond Gillett in ploughing the 3¼-acre meadow, near Yardley Hastings, Northamptonshire, during the statutory three-month period intended for consultation, during which the site is not protected by law.

But Mr Gillett's wife, Ann, said yesterday that the meadow, wich adjoined their garden, was their only source of income.

"For years we have been cooperating with the council", Mrs Gillett said. "But then these people turned up on our doorstep and said there would be penalties if we did anything to our land. "The only solution to get them off our backs was to plough it up. We hated doing it."

Hattersley 'on Budget TV'

By David Hewson

The BBC's Budget day television programme is expected to go ahead with Mr David Dimbleby in the chair and with the participation of Labour's deputy leader, Mr Roy Hattersley.

Labour Party aides insisted yesterday that Mr Hattersley would refuse to talk to Mr Dimbleby, who is involved in a dispute with the National Union Of Journalists, but would not object to sharing the same platform on condition that Mr Dimbleby did not address him.

Last night, Mr Dimbleby said: "I don't think that in this particualr programme I was going to be interviewing any Labour politicians, anyway, so I don't imagine there will be a problem".

The BBC told Mr Dimbleby on Tuesday night that it wanted him to present the programme. The NUJ, which has 13 members on strike at the provincial newspaper group which Mr Dimbleby runs, has asked Labour politicians and trade union leaders not to take part in any programme in which he features.

Mr Dimbleby, a freelance presenter, said that it was normal practice for Sir Robin Day to conduct all interviews with politicians during the coverage of the Budget, which is on March 13, while he spoke to a panel which included an economist, an accountant and a trade unionist.

It remains unclear whether any trade unionist will take part in a programme chaired by Mr Dimbleby. The House of Lords is due to give its judgment later this week on whether the NUJ's strike call to its members at Dimbleby Newspapers was legal. If the judgment goes against the union, Mr Dimbleby believes the TUC could not "black" him in support of an illegal union instruction.

Preparation for the programmme is due to begin shortly, largely involving NUJ members at the BBC who have rejected their union's advice to refuse to work with Mr Dimbleby.

Sharing platforms: Mr Dimbleby and Mr Hattersley

Closed shop in journalism attacked

A strong attack on the closed shop in journalism, with its alleged abuse of individual rights, misery, and strife, was made by Mr Barrie Farnill, features editor of the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, in his inaugural address as president of the Institute of Journalists, last night.

The institute, the oldest journalists' organization in the world, celebrates its centenary this year. Mr Farnill added: "We, in a so-called free nation, have seen again recently, the worst abuses of individual rights, together with the misery and strife, that the closed shop brings.

"Within our own industry, there are those who for either blindly selfish or for political reasons, would seek to tighten their grip on the rest. Some are ruled by almost medieval fear of change.

"The extremists among the latter are bent upon the cynical destruction of the free press, and the denial of freedom to express opinions contrary to their own.

"We have seen this ominous trend in the constant attacks upon our press freedom from both inside and outside Parliament, even from within the publishing industry itself, and more often than not the Institute of Journalists has been the only union which has dared raise its voice in protest.

● The Press Council has told the Home Office that the protection for journalistic material in the redrafted Police and Criminal Evidence Bill should be retained.

Mr Kenneth Morgan, said yesterday: "on balance the immediate and real danger to the operation of a free press of further exposing notes, files, and other journalists material to search and seizure by the police outweighs the risk that the protection in the Bill might give a toe hold in the future to attempts to restrict press

State industry price rise claims denied

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Accusations that the Government is planning big increases in state industry prices, such as gas and electricity, to help keep public spending within bounds were vigorously denied yesterday by Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

He said the Government was not using nationalized industry pricing as a form of taxation. "In fact, we expect price increases in the nationalized industries in the coming year to be at or below the general level of inflation."

Instead, he said, the improvement in the finances of state industries shown in last week's public spending White Paper, which envisages the virtual elimination of their borrowing needs by 1986-87, would come chiefly through economic growth and improved efficiency.

Mr Rees told a meeting in Loughborough that the Government was determined not to increase the total public spending above the levels set out in the White Paper. If public sector pay rose too fast managers knew they would have to squeeze elsewhere.

Ministers were also determined to get to grips with the problem of local authority overspending, which is why they had introduced proposals for rate-capping the most profligate councils.

But if spending in a programme did exceed the White Paper provisions the Government would not increase the overall totals, Mr Rees said. The extra would have to come our of the more generous contingency reserve. "Beyond that, more for one programme must mean less for another".

Sale room

American portrait sold by tender

By Huon Mallalieu

Sales by tender, that is, when sealed offers are left with the agent of the seller to be opened on a certain day, are not that common in London, but yesterday Agnews, the Bond Street picture dealers, announced the sale by that method of a late eighteenth century American portrait for "more than £1m".

The artist was John Singleton Copley, and the sitter Mrs Thomas Gage, the wife of a British governor of Massachusetts and a commander-in-chief during the revolutionary period. The companion portrait of her husband is already in the Yale Center for British Art, and on this occasion the successful bidder was the New York firm of dealers, Hirsch and Alder. Sir Geoffrey Agnew is a senior trustee of the settlement of the late Viscount Gage.

In New York on Thursday, Sotheby's held a conventional auction of Impressionist works, including a study by Kees van Dongen of his long-legged wife, entitled "Mille Baisers", which went to a private bidder from California at $143,000 or £97,445 (estimate $65,000 to $85,000). In 1959, the study had made $6,000 in another New York sale. The Sotheby sale produced a total of $1,919,335 or £1,307,894 with 18 of the 93 lots, or 14 per cent, bought in.

In London yesterday, Sotheby's offered English oak furniture and works of art to a total of £96,610 with 9 per cent bought in. A small James I oak buffet, or court cupboard, dating from about 1620, sold to a London dealer at £8,580 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000).

A general sale held by Hy. Duke and Son of Dorchester, Dorset, made £96,000 with less than 3 per cent bought in. A elaborate and imposing giltwood and gesso library cabinet dating from the middle of the nineteenth century sold for £3,050, and a reflecting telescope in gilt brass by Peter Dolland went to a private bidder at £2,450.

At Banham's, a particularly good nineteenth century prisoner-of-war style bone model of a ship of the line sold to an American bidder for £12,100 (estimate £5,000 to £8,000).

Death charge

Three juveniles were charged yesterday with the manslaughter of a girl aged 13, Michelle Buckley, of Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, died four days after falling from a horse while riding last November.

Editors need thick skins, Jameson told

People in the public eye, such as Mr Derek Jameson, the former Fleet Street editor, need to have a "thickish skin", counsel for the BBC told a High Court libel jury yesterday.

Mr John Wilmers, QC, said that editors of the *Daily Express*, *Daily Star* and *Daily Mirror* might expect the people they commented on to have fairly thick skins and to be able to take criticism. H added: "One is entitled to say what is good for the the goose is good for the gander."

Mr Wilmers was making his final speech for the defence on the tenth day of a libel action brought by Mr Jameson against the BBC over a sketch broadcast on Radio 4's *Week Ending* programme in March, 1980.

Mr Jameson, aged 54, of Clare Court, Judd Street, St Pancras, north London, was at the time editor of the *Daily Star*. "The sketch described him as "an East End boy made bad" and his editorial policy as "all the nudes fit to print".

The BBC denies libel and says the sketch was fair comment on a matter of public interest.

Mr Wilmers, for the BBC, told Mr Justice Comyn and the jury that it was not denied that some of the words in the sketch were defamatory in the sense that they were derogatory to Mr Jameson in his capacity as an editor.

But the writer of the sketch had read the *Daily Star* under Mr Jameson's editorship very carefully because it was a new paper. There was material in the news paper of which an honest man was entitled to say: "I think this is not tasteful." It was plainly not a very literary or intellectual paper.

"Why shouldn't the scriptwriter be allowed to express a strong opinion. We are all entitled, in a free country, to express our views." Mr Wilmers said.

The sketch was comment on Mr Jameson as an editor, not as an individual, and a reasonable listener to the programme would have realized that counsel said.

Mr Wilmers told the jury it was of "the greatest importance to freedom of speech" that they sould reject Mr Jameson's attack. "We need our free press. As judges throughout the ages have pointed out, the liberties of each of us depend on freedom of speech."

He urged the jury to reject Mr Jameson's claim and vindicate the BBC's right to broadcast what its scriptwriter had honestly believed.

Mr Wilmers added that if the jury found in Mr Jameson's favour, "the smallest coin of the realm" would be adequate damages to award him.

The trial continues on Tuesday when Mr David Eady will make final submissions on Mr Jameson's behalf. A verdict is expected the next day.

Challenge by chess youngsters

From Harry Golombek

The fourth ARC Young Masters Tournament began at Westergate School near Chichester yesterday, with a strong and interesting entry that reflects the aims of its organizers, to bring the best junior players into contact with the top grandmasters and masters.

The event consists of six rounds among seventy players and is run on the Swiss system, in which players of equal scores meet each other.

Pairings on the top boards, which the international grandmasters and masters are to be found, are all interesting in the way they show the clash between gifted but inexperienced juniors and their highly talented elders.

The international grandmasters John Nunn is playing Paul Townsend, former Cambridge University chess captain. Tony Miles, the international grandmaster, is playing Philip Rossiter, aged 14, who recently distinguished himself by winning a strong junior invitational tournament at Plymouth and English grandmaster Jonathan Speelman meets the strong Birmingham player, Craig Dawson, aged 17.

Overseas selling prices

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Killer of art student to be detained at her Majesty's pleasure

From Our Correspondent, Nottingham

Norman Smith was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure after a jury of eight women and four men found him guilty yesterday of murdering Susan Renhard, aged 21, in the Derbyshire Peak District last June.

Smith, aged 18, was told by Mr Justice Caulfield at Nottingham Crown Court: "This jury has convicted you of the offence of murder. The girl you killed, the jury say you strangled. She was a gem amongst maidens. She resisted. I have no doubt, to the death the attack you made upon her modesty."

Smith, a student, of Sunnyside Villas, Buston Road, Castleton, Derbyshire, stood impassively as the jury foreman announced the verdict after a retirement of 2 hours, 40 minutes. Smith's parents were in court as the sentence was given. The judge said that by law there was only one sentence he could pass.

Miss Renhard, an art student at Manchester Polytechnic, was found strangled and partly clothed at Cavedale, a beauty spot in the Peak District on June 27 last year. She was engaged to be married and had gone out to take photographs as part of a college course on graphics and design.

Smith admitted meeting her, but denied hitting her or strangling her. Mr Martin Thomas, QC, for the defence claimed that Miss Renhard was still alive when Smith left the scene, and suggested that someone else may have come along later and killed her.

The dead girl's father, Mr David Renhard, a retired law lecturer, of West Hagley, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, said after the verdict: "It has been a very stressful and emotional week. To see a young man sent down for life is very distressing whoever he is.

"We miss our daughter very much. It is impossible to make up for a lost daughter. I was really touched by the remarks of the judge about the sort of girl Susan was. She was just like that. She was very humorous and a lovely girl."

He added: "The police have been wonderful throughout the investigation."

Both sets of parents were in court every day of the week-long trial. Smith's mother and father were in the public gallery when the verdict was announced.

Smith's mother, Mrs Shirley Smith, said after the case: "We are shattered by this. I still believe it was an accident. It was not premeditated."

Her husband, Jim, said: "My wife and I both feel deep sorrow for Susan's family but we also have sorrow ourselves. We hope we are strong enough as a family to survive this. There is tremendous support in the village and we hope Norman will come home quickly."

Norman Smith and his victim, Susan Renhard.



Vintage port: Mr Brian Tyrrell, aged 47, a fisherman for 31 years, and some of 24 new storage huts in traditional style at Whitstable Harbour, Kent, officially handed over to skippers yesterday. They replace huts on the east side to be demolished for port improvements. (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

Greenwich museum to charge for entry

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

The Government has hinted that it will allow national museums to introduce admission charges and retain the profits from their shops and publications divisions.

The far-reaching decision became public yesterday when the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich announced that it had reached agreement to introduce admission charges from April 2.

Nationally funded museums have always been free to introduce admission charges, but have been reluctant to do so because the profits entrance tickets bring have automatically accrued to the Treasury.

The Greenwich museum has reached a unique agreement with the Office of Arts and Libraries that the receipts will remain with the museum on the understanding that they will not be used to employ extra staff or build new extensions. The interim agreement is likely to be ratified into a new deal for all nationally-funded museums and galleries which could come into force next year.

The first effect of the move will be to enable the Greenwich museum to reopen on Mondays, after a gap of three years. Later, the money will be used to improve and develop the quality of service

A combined ticket to the main building and the Old Royal Observatory will cost £1.50, and admission to either £1. A family ticket, for two adults and up to five children, will be available for £4. A combined ticket will be available to children, students, pensioners, disabled people and the unemployed for 75p.

Local residents, living in Greenwich, Lewisham or Tower Hamlets, will be eligible for a neighbourhood ticket, valid for one year, for 40p if they produce some form of identification

More flexible education with computers

New technology will open up further education to women because it is being taht more flexibly than other subjects, Lady Platt of Writtle, chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said yesterday.

She told students and staff at Birmingham Polytechnic that it was vital to give a second chance to those who had missed out at school.

Plans to introduce a flexible system of further education in the next few years, including the chance for people to build up a number of credits in a subject at their own pace and to learn from home, would open up opportunities for many

Crash pilots' bravery praised

Verdicts of accidental death were recorded yesterday on all 20 victims of the helicopter crash in the sea off the Isles of Scilly last July. There were six survivors from British Airways's Oscar November helicopter.

Earlier, the inquest at Penzance was told by one of the survivors that the courage of the pilots prevented even greater loss of life.

Mrs Lucile Langley-Williams, aged 62, said: "I think it would be very sad if we lost sight of what the captains did in the water.

"Bearing in mind the responsibility they had already had, and the sadness we all felt, they were absolutely incredible."

Mrs Langley-Williams, her voice breaking with emotion as she recalled the tragedy, said: "Without them, our story could well have had a very different ending. They kept us going."

Captain Dominic Lawlor, aged 37, and Captain Neil Charleton, aged 30, survived.

The other survivors were Mrs Llangley-Williams's fellow Isles of Silly councillor, Mrs Megan Smith, aged 61; Ellen Hanslow, aged 15, and Howard Goddard, aged 11.

Mrs Langley-Williams described how Mrs Smith was saved by a suitcase. "The two children and the pilots were swimming nearby. Captain Lawlor was with Howard and Captain Charleton with Ellen.

"After a while Captain Charleton asked if I was alright and I said I was flagging.

"He came over and as he did so a suitcase came out and he brought it up. Together we got Megan onto the suitcase".

Mrs Langley-Williams joined Ellen while Captain Charleton stayed with Mrs Smith.

The sea was like a mill pond but they swam in twos in a little circle surrounded by mist, she said. They heard two helicopters overhead and once saw an aircraft "like a Dinky toy" in a patch of blue sky.

The lifeboat coxswain, Mr Matt Lethbridge, said that he followed a "slight mark" on his radar scanner to find the survivors.

Sikh wins damages against club

A Sikh was yesterday awarded damages against a golf club after a judge ruled that it refused him membership on the grounds of race. Pramjit Singh Hothi, of Teagues Crescent, Telford, Shropshire, was awarded damages of £150 and costs against the Wrekin Golf Club, Shropshire.

Birmingham County Court was told that Mr Hothi, aged 40, a postal supervisor, took up golf after a back injury stopped him playing cricket. Mr Edward Coke, counsel for Mr Hathi, said his client was the only applicant to be excluded by the club's committee during the last 30 years. Mr Hothi told the court: "It happened because I am a Sikh. They probably thought that me walking around the clubhouse in a turban wouldn't look nice."

The club denied racial discrimination. The secretary, Mr John Bowen, the captain, Mr John Cooper and the vice-captain, Mr Edward Allen, all said the application was rejected because Mr Hothi had adopted an aggressive attitude at his interview.

Judge Wilson, sitting with two magistrates ordered the club to reconsider Mr Hothi's application for membership.

Royal Family cut from TV satire

By Our Arts Correspondent

Independent television's peak-time Sunday night schedules are being hastily reshaped today after a comedy team was ordered to cut all references to the Royal Family from the first show of a satirical puppet series which makes its debut at 10pm tomorrow.

The cuts were ordered by the board of Central Television "as a matter of courtesy" to the Duke of Edinburgh, who is to open the company's new Nottingham studios next Friday.

Staff at the station, which co-produced the 13 part series, *Spitting Image*, with an independent company worked through Thursday night to excise a scene of the Queen talking to the Duke and the Prime Minister, and another which featured the Princess of Wales.

the independent company, also called Spitting Image, is understood to have been given the assurance that the scenes can be reinstated in future episodes of the 25-minute topical series. The producers had expected the series to provoke controversy, and it was described as distasteful by a Conservative MP several weeks ago.

The board of Central had not seen the opening episode before its decision. The programme had been cleared by sehior Central staff, lawyers, and the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The cuts are understood to have shortened the programme by five minutes, which will result in the rescheduling of programmes due to follow it. Sir Gordon Hobday, Central's chairman and the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, who will be the Duke's host at next Friday's opening ceremony, is believed to have led the call for the cuts.

Fines for Sunday sales

Payless, the do-it-yourself retail group, was ordered to pay nominal fines and £400 costs yesterday after admitting 16 counts of breaking the laws against Sunday trading at two shop in Bromley, south London.

The chairman of Bromley magistrates, Mr Gilbert Smith said: "The purpose of the Shops Act is to dissuade people from opening on Sundays, but in this case justice will be done if we impose nominal fines."

He fined the company £100 on each count.

Afterwards Payless's chairman, Mr Tom O'Sullivan, said that the verdict was a victory. "We do not think Bromley council should have brought the case to court and I believe this is the magistrates' way of saying they agree with us."

The magistrates were told the company had paid £8,920 in fines and costs because of 46 council summonses in less than two years.

Standard up 1p

The price of *The Standard*, London's evening newspaper, will go up by 1p to 18p from Monday. Increasing costs are blamed for the rise.

Mint strikes gold in East

The Royal Mint has struck a HK$1,000 dollar coin (about £90) commissioned by the Hongkong Government to commemorate the Chinese lunar Year of the Rat.

The coins (right) has been struck in 22 carat gold and weighs 15.98g (a little more than half an ounce) and measures 28.40mm (just over an inch). It has been struck in proof quality, regarded by many as the true test of the minter's craft, in quantities of only 10,000.

The proof coin has a frosted finish to the relief design and a mirror-like background. The bright uncirculated coin has been struck to an issue limit of only 20,000

The proof costs £350 and the bright uncirculated £235 (including value-added tax), and each is supplied in a display case. Further details are available from the Royal Mint Coin Club, PO Box 500, Cardiff CF1 1HA.





Heart fears boost sales of low-fat milk

Sales of low fat and long-life milk have increased sharply in the past two weeks, after publicity linking high-fat foods with heart attack.

Express Dairies, Britain's third largest dairy, delivering to 1,250,000 homes a day, said sales have risen by 10 per cent, with customers switching from fresh milk.

Unigate, which delivers to three million homes, said sales of fresh skimmed milk now accounted for about five per cent of deliveries. "We were the first company in Britain to launch a fresh skimmed milk and sales have shown consistent improvement, especially recently", a spokesman said.

Two *World in Action* television programmes this month, dealt with damage allegedly caused to arteries by eating polyunsaturated fats found in many dairy products.

Air crash report blames door defects

By Richard Evans

An airliner which crashed in 1981 killing three people after a baggage door flew open was of a type which had a "history of door defects", an official report has disclosed.

The BAe 748 twin-turboprop airliner, operated by Dan-Air, plunged into a field at Nailstone, Leicestershire, after the rear door was torn from its hinges and lodged on the tailplane, making the aircraft uncontrollable.

The report, published by the accident investigation branch of the Department of Transport, says that there have been 35 instances since 1962, the year the BA3 748 went into service, when a baggage door has opened in flight. On 13 of those occasion the door separated from the aircraft and "five of these struck the tailplane, occasionally causing considerable damage."

Since the Leicestershire crash the Civil Aviation Authority has issued a series of instructions to improve operating procedures involving the doors of the 748.

British Aerospace, manufacturers of the 748, has introduced design changes covering the door and its warning system, after discussions between the authority, operators and manufacturer.

The 1981 crash involved Dan-Air flight 240 carrying light mail from Gatwick to East Midlands airport at Castle Donington. The baggage door opened minutes before the plane was due to land, separated from its hinges and was caught on the leading edge of the starboard tail plane.

Mr L. Shaddick, the accident inspector, says in his report that the door was not properly locked when the aircraft took off, because of a "mis-rigging" in the lock mechanism.

"The crew were unaware until a late stage in the flight of the unsafe condition of the baggage door and this was due to a combination of shortcomings in the design, construction and maintenance of the door warning systems and the appearance of visual indications."

Report of the accident to BAe HS 748 G-ASPL at Nailstone, Leicestershire on 26 June, 1981. (Accidents Investigation Branch, Department of Transport. Price 8.50).

'Buck was passed' at Law Society

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

An internal inquiry by the Law Society into its handling of the case of a solicitor who overcharged a client by more than £130,000 is expected to lay blame on the society's council for failure to act on the client's behalf.

Despite some opposition to publication from "old guard" members of the council, the report is due out on Monday in what is being seen as an exercise in frankness on the society's part.

The inquiry was set up after Mr Glanville Davies, a solicitor and council member of the society for 15 years, was ordered to be struck off by a High Court judge last October for overcharging a client by £131,000.

The High Court case was launched by the client, Mr Leslie Parsons, a South Wales businessman, after the Law Society had failed to act on his complaints.

The findings of the inquiry by three council members under Mr Philip Ely were described yesterday by another council member as "frank" and "getting to the bottom of the whole case".

He said Mr Parsons' original complaint ran to about 70 pages and no one bothered to sit down and read it because it was so complicated. It was the old story of the buck being passed on and on and eventually coming to rest on the wrong lap.

He said that the inquiry report names council members who held positions of authority at the time, but that it blames the entire council, as the body which delegates power

Another inquiry into the case has been conducted by the ombudsman for solicitors' clients, Major-General John Allen, whose criticisms of the Law Society were tempered by general remarks that there had been an improvement in the way the society handles complaints. His report provoked criticism from the Legal Action Group, a 3,000-member association of lawyers, which said the findings were slanted in favour of the society. General Allen denies bias.

Radio opening

Mrs Gertrude Phillipson, aged 105, is to open Radio Trafford 231, Greater Manchester, one of the BBC's experimental neighbourhood radio stations, tomorrow.

Promise to give tenants of charities cash discount may cost £600m

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

The Government's enthusiasm for extending tenants' right to buy their homes may have landed it with a £600m bill for which £10m has been allocated in 1984-85.

That is because the Government wishes to give tenants of charitable housing associations the same rights as council and other housing association tenants.

Last year, the Government bowed to pressure and dropped the proposal after parts of the Housing and Building Control Bill were defeated in the House of Lords. Peers and housing groups argued that even though charitable housing associations had accepted public money for building, giving tenants the right to buy would disrupt their work.

The Government later promised to allow housing associations tenants help to choose a house on the open market. On buying it they would receive the cash equivalent of the discount they would have recieved if they had bought their own home as sitting tenants. The Government would pay the cash discount through the Housing Corporation.

But officials considering how to frame this promise in the revised Housing and Building Control Bill, now before the Lords, were alarmed to discover how much it could cost.

About 100,000 tenants of


Mr Gow: Announced decision

charitable housing associations are eligible. If they all claimed an average discount of £6,000, the Government would be committed to finding £600m. Even if only a fraction claimed discounts, the provision would cost considerably more than the "fairly insignificant amount", which the Housing Corporation said.

The corporation said: "Discussions are still going on with the Department of the Environment".

The National Housing and town Planning Council, a lobbying group, said that even if the £660m figure was notional, the eventual cost of the government promise – made just before Christmas by Mr Ian Gow, minister for Housing and Construction.

If a housing association tenant bought another house and moved, the incoming tenant would immediately start building up eligibility for a discount if and when they chose to purchase a house.

Warning of Chianti risk 'unfair'

The wine producers of Chianti said yesterday that they had been treated unfairly by Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health, who earlier this week said that a combination of drinking the wine and taking certain anti-depressants could be fateful.

The Italian wine contains high levels of tyramine, a substance which cannot be metabolized in patients receiving treatment with the monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) group of anti-depressants.

The Italian producers of Chianti Classico say that patients taking the drug are warned by their doctors to avoid a whole range of food and drink.

However, the manufacturers of the drug specifically mentions "completely avoiding Chianti wine".

But the same company says that changes in production methods in recent years had almost eliminated the presence of tyramine "and there is no more tyramine in Chianti than in any other table wine

Chemical warfare tests on troops

The Government has admitted that servicemen have been used in chemical warfare experiments at Porton Down, Wiltshire.

Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said on Thursday that volunteers had for many years participated in experiments vital to chemical warfare research.

Mr Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North-West, immediately tabled Commons questions asking for details, and whether participants were genuine volunteers.

Mr Lee had told him: "Tests are carefully controlled and great care is taken to ensure the health and well-being of volunteers. These experiments make a vital contribution to the establishment's work in ensuring the protection of our forces against the threat of chemical attack".

Mr Banks said: "It beggars belief that anyone would genuinely volunteer to be used for experiments involving chemical warfare.

"We therefore need to know who these people are, and whether they have perhaps been cajoled into volunteering for experiments which are clearly dangerous".

Regalia thief jailed

A cleaner who stole the silver-gilt chain of office of the Lord Lyon, who is in charge of heraldry and genealogy in Scotland, was jailed for a year at Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday.

Thomas Hill, aged 48, of West Granton Grove, Edinburgh, who worked at New Register House in Edinburgh, which houses the Lord Lyon's office, also admitted stealing the silver Clan Fergus baton and other silverware between July and November last year after he found a key in a drawer.

His total haul was worth about £11,000, but he sold the items to a dealer for £485.

'What's My Line?' to return

What's My Line?, the television panel game last screened 21 years ago, is being revived by Thames Television. The first programme will be screened live on March 26.

The chairman will be Eamonn Andrews, and on its panel will be the comedian Eric Morecambe, the actress Barbara Kelly, the writer Jilly Cooper, the journalist George Gale, and another member yet to be named. Miss Kelly and Mr Andrews both appeared on the first programme, transmitted by the BBC in July 1951.

Thames's director of light entertainment, Mr Philip Jones, said yesterday that *What's My Line?*, which involves panellists questioning guests to discover the unusual jobs they do, "remains one of the best television panel games ever devised".

Ministry check on drink case

The Home Office has asked yesterday for a transcript of the dismissal of a drink-driving charge against Robert Todd, a trombone player, at Basingstoke Magistrates' Court on Thursday.

The musician said he used camphor spirit on his lips when performing and that this caused the high reading on an Intoximeter machine.

Two accused of murder

Two men were remanded in custody for a week at Camberwell Magistates' Court yesterday charged with the murder of Mr Robert Perry, a security guard, who was shot last week while delivering in Norwood, south London.

They were: Charles Patrick Terrill, aged 26, unemployed, of Rosendale Road, Herne Hill, south London, and Robert Tominey, aged 25, a painter, of Haygate Estate, Walworth, south London.

Newsagent raid charges

Three men charged with robbing Peckham newsagent, Mr Harry Tipple, were remanded in custody for a week at Tower Bridge Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Charles Bradford, aged 24, from Peckham, south London, his brother Terence, aged 27, from Poplar, east London, and Edward Mitchell, aged 21, from Peckham, were also charged with assaulting Mr Tiple and his wife Cicely.

Boys find £3,500

A carrier bag containing £3,500 was found in a car park in Fakenham, Norfolk, yesterday by Andrew Smith and Paul Utting, both aged 10.


Getting acquainted: The Prince of Wales meeting children from the Brunei international school in Muara, outside the capital.

Brunei displays its hardware

From David Watts, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei

The last big independence celebration in South-east Asia came to an end yesterday with a display by Brunei's small but effective forces.

The executive jets, luxury yachts and merrymaking were put aside for a while as the Brunei armed forces paraded their immaculate equipment through the city and down the busy Brunei River.

For a Sultan who has just been created an honorary general in the British Army, Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah's timing has been less than precise. Last night he kept his banquet guests waiting for more than an hour and a half, and he was again some 40 minutes late for the military march past.

But the British heritage of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces was unmistakable, from the snappy salutes to the carefully blacked tyres of the Land-Rovers and the blue Rapier anti-aircraft missiles.

The parade of land forces over, Brunei's small but potent fleet of Exocet-equipped fast patrol boats cruised down the Brunei River making a bizarre contrast with the houses on stilts of Kampong Ayer, with the water village behind. Prince Charles boarded one of the vessels for a trip down the river to Muara, where he lunched with British officers seconded to the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and met British community schoolchildren.

The children, with their carefully hand-coloured Union Jacks, were cheering the Prince before he was in sight. It was one of the most vivid moments of the visit. The children seemed to bring the Prince alive. To them he confessed that his one disappointment was not to have been able to play polo. A torrential downpour, which soaked some of the banquet guests on Thursday night, appeared to destroy any chance of that.

Not only the Prince will be disappointed. The nine Argentines who tend the Sultan's polo ponies had already admired the Prince's form on horseback and had looked forward to seeing him take part in a contest which would have involved the royalty of at least four countries: Brunei, Britain, Malaysia and Nepal.

On Saturday the Prince will conclude his stay by visiting the British Army Gurkha battalion stationed in the Seria Oilfields.

Soviet economists told to pull their socks up

Moscow (Reuter) – Soviet economists have been told that their remedies for the country's ills are inadequate or out of touch with reality and they must reshape their attitudes.

A decree from the Communist Party Central Committee published on the front page of *Pravda* yesterday criticized almost every aspect of the work of the Economic Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

The institute was told to tackle more of the country's concrete economic problems and take the advice of factory workers and those involved in dealing with day-to-day problems.

Western diplomats analysing the statement said it appeared to back up the impression given in recent speeches of Politburo members that the experimental reforms introduced under the late President Andropov would continue.

The new party leader, Mr Konstantin Chernenko, was closely associated with former President Brezhnev and the more lax attitude towards the economy which prevailed under him.

Some diplomats said that many parts of Mr Chernenko's seech to the party plenum last June were echoed in yesterday's criticism of the state of Soviet economic science.

The economists were told: "Take part in carrying out economic experiments. The implementation of the results of research should be considered the most important task of the institute."

Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov, aged 57, one of the younger Politburo members who had a meteoric rise under the brief Andropov rule, said in a spech also published in *Pravda* that it was important for there to be no let-up in the pace of economic reform.

Mr Vorotnikov, once banished by Mr Brezhnev to an ambassadorial post, now holds the powerful position of Premier of the Russian Federation, the largest of the 15 Soviet republics. He was careful to add that he was conveying views also held by Mr Chernenko.

Some analysts said it appeared that Mr Chernenko, who in his speech accepting the party leadership said he would continue on the path of reform but with a "look before you leap" attitude, was not about to hamper moves that could help the economy.

Heads together: Chancellor Kohl with Signor Craxi after their talks in Bonn

Kohl and Craxi share EEC hopes

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl flew to Paris yesterday for talks with President Mitterrand on what can be done to end the crisis in the European Community.

He told a press conference before leaving that a breakdown of the Brussels summit next month would have catastrophic consequences, but said there were real chances of success if all sides showed good will.

His cautious hopes were echoed by Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, who ended a day of consultations here yesterday morning by declaring that there had to be compromises on all sides.

Signor Craxi, however, was noticeably cool to suggestions – which have been voiced here recently – that the six founding members of the Community, in particular France and Germany, should take the lead in pushing for European unity, without waiting for agreement from the other members.

He said all ten members had interests in a balance and a solution to their own special problems. But any solution should not lead to new imbalances – a clear hint that Italy views with suspicion any suggestion of a Franco-German hegemony in the Community.

Signor Craxi, who described his country's relations with Germany as excellent, also said that Europe should not be limited to agriculture which would be nonsensical.

Chancellor Kohl added that decisive steps had to be taken towards political integration to give a reality to the Treaty of Rome.

PARLIAMENT Feb 24 1984

Snowdon plea for disabled

HOUSE OF LORDS

Disabled people did not demand sympathy, they asked only for their rights denied to them, the Earl of Snowdon said in the House of Lords during the committee stage of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill, sponsored by the Earl of Longford (Lab), the purpose of which is to make discrimination against the disabled unlawful.

The Earl of Snowdon said it was a fiction that those who practised discrimination were brutes. The truth was that they were not monsters but frail human beings who regarded disablement, he was sorry to say, with contempt.

It was a tragic pity that a law was needed to protect the disabled from the denial of their elementary rights. They were not asking this as a charitable handout or favour but as a right.

They do not (he said) reproach their unthinking fellow citizens. They ask only their unthinking fellow citizens to start to think. Legislation cannot itself bring to an end the suffering of disabled people but it would be a huge step forward to that noble end.

Lord Glenarthur, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said the Government did not accept the need for a Bill of this kind and did not propose to give it any sustenance at any further stage.

While it fully shared the abhorrence so powerfully expressed by Lord Snowdon, it did not believe there was sufficient evidence of genuine discrimination against disabled people to warrant the complex and expensive regulatory machine the Bill sought to provide.

In view of the Government position on the Bill, he did not propose to comment one way or another on the individual amendments.

The Bill completed its committee stage.

● The Recreational Gardening Bill, moved by Lord Wallace of Coslany (Lab), which seeks to give local authorities powers over allotments, was read a second time.

Orange badges black market

There was a black market in orange badges for the disabled, Earl Attlee (SDP) said at question time in the House of Lords.

He claimed that badges supplied to disabled people who had since died were being sold on the open market to active people, instead of being returned to the authorities.

Lady Trumpington, the Government spokesman, said she had no evidence to suggest this was so. Badges were valid for only three years which limited the soope for abuse.

She reported that since the offence of misuse of the orange badge scheme came into force in October 1981 there had, up to the end of 1982, been seven prosecutions.

The Government was reviewing the arrangements with the police to establish whether further guidance would be helpful in the quest to notify the local authorities of misuse of the scheme.

Political appointments in London attacked

COMMONS

Disproportionate increases in rates only encouraged potential entrepreneurs to go elsewhere rather than come to London, Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said in the Commons in reply to a Labour backbench motion calling on the Government to withdraw all legislative proposals for dismantling the structure and destroying the direct accountability of the Greater London Council and the Inner London Education Aughority. The motion was talked out.

He said that he agreed that there were threats to the democracy of Londoners in the activities of the mob at Brent; in the breaking of the distinction between elected politicians and neutral officers. The integrity of public service had been undermined by a series of political appointments in London.

Those he named were: Mr Reg Race, former Labour MP for Wood Green as head programme officer; Mr Robin Murray, former Tribune Group economic adviser as chief economic adviser; Mr Alan McGarvey, deputy Labour leader of Wandsworth Council as chief executive, Greater London Enterprise Board; and Mr Arthur Latham and Miss Merle Amory to the London Transport Board.

Sadley the GLC had a capacity to obstruct, slow down, foil and complicate, all of which could lose investment opportunities in London.

There was plenty of opportunity to make savings in the ILEA whose leaders had been at pains to create a misleading impression and to arouse unnecessary concern about the Government's proposals. Education of inner London children was too important for scare-mongering. Expenditure per pupil was at record levels in real terms.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham, North West, Lab), a member of the GLC, in moving the motion, said it was well known that the Prime Minister did not like opposition, either inside her party or elswhere, and there was a worrying petty personal element in many of her political decisions. The demise of the GLC was because the lady hated Red Ken, but personal antipathy was not a proper basis for a major restructuring of the democratic system in London.

He would rather see the election of a Tory GLC through the ballot box than see a Tory Government try to neuter and emasculate the democratic process in London.

Advertising code for Euro-TV

From Ian Murray
Brussels

A new code of conduct for television advertising has been approved by all 21 member governments of the Council of Europe. Its aim is to impose common standards on broadcasting authorities before the arrival of satellite television on screens through Europe.

The new code means that advertisers would have to take the law into account, not only in the country of transmission but in any other country where there was an audience.

The potentially harmful consequences of tobacco, drugs, medical and alcohol advertisements also have to be taken into consideration, while no use can be made of children which could harm them in any way.

The code also insists that advertisements have to be grouped, clearly identifiable and not of excessive length. "subliminal" advertisements – where a message is flashed very briefly into the subconscious from the screen – are also out.

Hongkong proposals questioned

From David Bonavia,
Hongkong

The Anglo-Chinese negotiations on the future of Hongkong took an unexpected twist yesterday. When Mr Richard Lobo, senior unofficial member of the Legislative Council, called for a debate on the proposals being worked out in Peking.

Meanwhile a mini-summit of British officials involved in the disscussions is to be held here on Sunday. Sir Richard Evans, the British Ambassador to China, and Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State with responsibility for Hongkong, are expected here for discussions with the Governor, Sir Edward Youde.

The appointed unofficial members of the Legislative Council have a certain moral authority, as representing the views of local people as against the ex officio members. But Peking will be upset if a debate brings any questioning of the basic principle that Hongkong is Chinese territory

Swiss vote on national service

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

In another of their soul-searching national referendums, the Swiss decide this weekend if their young men are to have the choice of opting for a civilian service – for example in hospitals – as an alternative to compulsory military service.

The issue is regarded as momentous for the concept of a neutral Switzerland protected by its citizen-soldiers, for whom "Our Army is not an institution which stands apart from the nation. It is the nation itself".

Advocates of a civilian service, who collected well over the minimum 100,000 signatures necessary for having a proposal put to a referendum, are motivated by the fact that more than 750 young men are sentenced annually to between four and eight months for refusing the call-up. While some are permitted to do hospital or similar work, others go to ordinary prisons.

Opponents of a free choice for youths when they reach the military age of 20 fear this would gradually lead to an erosion of the Army's mobilization strength of 625,000 through refusal of military service is only 2 per cent.

Given the depth of feeling for the Army, which also provides an annual get-together for men with common professional interests, civilian service has little chance of being accepted.

Iran shells Basra and claims capture of oil-rich Iraqi islands

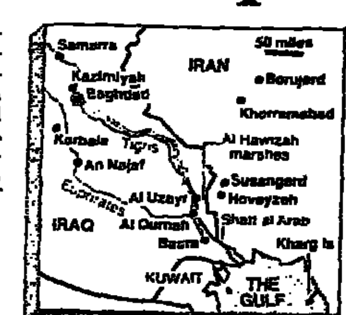
Tehran (AFP, Reuter) – Iranian forces claimed continued progress into Iraq yesterday in a series of reported successes which were followed by renewed Iraqi missile attacks on Iranian civilians after a 10-day suspension. There was also retaliatory shelling by Iran of Basra, on the Shatt al Arab waterway.

A Tehran military communiqué said that its troops has seized the Majnoon islands in the Al-Hawizah marshes, a 76-square-mile areas between the Iranian border and the Baghdad-Basra highway. Iraq has about 50 oil wells there.

More than 1,000 Iraqis were killed in the battle, the communiqué claimed, brining the Iraqi toll to more than 3,500 since the defensive began on Wednesday.

The statement followed reports of a massive attack north-east of Iraq's chief port and oil terminal of Basra on the Shatt al Arab.

But Iran effectively retracted a report yesterday that its forces had taken the town of Al Qurnah, 30 miles north of Basra, where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers join to form the Shatt al Arab. It was claimed, however, that the Baghdad-Basra highway had been reached at several points, and that Al Qurnah could be taken "when necessary".



But a Reuter correspondent, Subhy Haddad, one of the first reporters to reach the town on Thursday evening, reported that it was still firmly in Iraqi hands.

Haddad said he saw no signs of Iranians in the vicinity of the town and quoted local officials as saying that the town's residents and armed peasants from surrounding marshlands had helped the Iraqi army to wipe out an attacking Iranian force seven miles further east.

Haddad quoted the Iraqi officials as saying more than 1,500 Iranians had been killed and 350 taken prisoner.

The Iraqi Government ridiculed the Iranian report, said no Iraqi territory had been captured. It said more than 4,770 Iranians had been killed on two fronts since Wednesday evening.

An Iraqi communiqué confirmed the strength of the offensive, disclosing that fighting was taking place over a front almost 60 miles long, and that Iranian troops had succeeded in penetrating at least 16 miles into the country.

The Iraqi Defence Minister, General Adnan Keirallah, said that his forces had repulsed an Iranian attack on Ahwar, 22 miles from the border and seven miles west of the Tigris.

In another development, the Iraqi News Agency reported a dogfight over Khafagieh, deep inside Iran, in which an Iranian F14 jet was shot down.

An earlier bulletin disclosed that the Iraqis have made heavy demands on their Air Force since the start of the offensive.

In the first 24 hours of combat, Iraqi fighter-bombers and helicopters flew 229 missions, inflicting "heavy losses in human lives and equipment", a statement said, but did not mention Iranian reports of renewed attacks on civilian targets.

Iran also said its forces shelled the Basra yesterday after Iraq fired missiles at two Iranian cities, killing 59 civilians and wounding 350.

The Iranian News Agency, Irna, said the Iraqi missile attacks during the night killed 36 people in Khorramabad and 23 in Borujerd, both in Iran's Lorestan province.

Exiled Iran leader makes Gulf arms plea

By Hazir Teimourian

Dr Shapour Bakhtiar, the former Prime Minister of Iran who failed to achieve a transition from absolute monarchy to democracy during his brief tenure of power in 1979, has appealed to the West "to stop the Gulf war by ending the supply of military spare parts to the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini".

During a visit to London he said he understood how some Western companies had grown dependent on exporting goods to Iran. "I am not opposed to the sale of penicillin to Iran. But when it comes to spare parts for tanks and aircraft that enable Khomeini to send thousands of children to their deaths each month, it becomes unforgivable".

He also called for a boycott of Iran's oil and dismissed the suggestion that Ayatollah Khomeini could block the Strait of Hormuz to international shipping. "Iran has no right to close the Gulf, and countries such as the United States, Britain and France could immediately overcome any local military attempt to stop the flow of Arab oil to the outside world."

Dr Bakhtiar has also visited the United States and some Arab countries in the Gulf region (whose names he declined to mention) in the past six weeks. He said he had been encouraged by the further diplomatic isolation of Ayatollah Khomeini's regime in the region.

Dr Bakhtiar, who has lived in exile in Paris for the past five years, has recently formed an alliance with another liberal former Prime Minister, Dr Ali Amini. They have agreed to advocate the installation of the former Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi as a constitutional monarch if they achieve power again.

He was scathing in his attacks on his left-wing rivals, the National Resistance Coucil around ex-President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, and the Mujahedin leader, Mr Mussad Rajavi, both of whom also live in exile in Paris. "They are mere reactionaries who carry even less weight with the people of Iran than does their former idol, Khomeini".



Ayatollah's foe: Dr Bakhtiar, who left London yesterday. (Photograph: John Voos).

Australians angry at Cheysson's claim

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

Australia has asked France for an explanation of remarks by M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, that Australia was not worried about nuclear testing in the Pacific. His remarks were made in an interview with the French newspaper *Liberation*.

Mr Lionel Bowen, the Acting Foreign Minister, said he had asked the embassy in Paris to ask the French Foreign Ministry if the report was accurate. The Australian Foreign Affairs Department has also contacted the French ambassador.

Mr Bowen said Australia's opposition to and concern about nuclear testing in the Pacific, and to all nuclear testing, had been repeatedly made clear to the French Government at the highest level, including M Cheysson.

● **TOKYO:** The Foreign Ministry lodged protests yesterday with the embassies of the Soviet Union, the United States, France, China and Britain against nuclear tests, an official said (AP reports).

According to information obtained by the ministry, the Soviet Union conducted about 25 underground nuclear tests last year and one on February 19 this year.

The United States carried out 15 such tests last year, including one jointly with Britain, and two tests this year.

Young unemployed swell Grenada's police force

From Trevor Fishlock, St George's, Grenada

The pay is low, but young men and women are flocking to join the police in Grenada. As part of the reconstruction of a shattered community, the island badly needs to build a new force on the rubble of the old. In the meantime, the island is patrolled by 750 American and Caribbean troops.

The police force was humiliated and cut in size after the Bishop government took power five years ago. Its law-keeping powers were reduced and stations were closed as the ruling party's forces took over most policing.

By the time of the American invasion, police strength had been halved, to about 280, mostly junior men who had had only basic training. Most experienced senior officers had quit or been forced out.

The police had little transport, no radio communications and they operated from ramshackle buildings. Their reputation had diminished during the rule of Sir Eric Gairy because they were associated with an unpopular administration. It sank even more during the rule of the revolutionary government.

Today the force has 350 men and women and the aim is to reach the full strength of about 600 by the end of next year. Men have been called from retirement to help to fill the gaps and recruits are being trained at a centre in Barbados built by Britain in 1957 and still partly funded by it.

A British police adviser, Mr Brian Graves, has been sent to St George's to help to reorganize the force and £300,000 of Britain's recent £750,000 grant to the island is being spent on the police. The force needs vehicles, radio and police stations, but the pressing requirement is training and the building of a body of senior officers. Few of the Grenadian police have had any advanced training.

Troops still patrol with rifles, but there is no longer a security problem and the police go unarmed. The Americans are anxious to withdraw their 300 men from the security froce. But many islanders feel that their presence has at least a psychological value.

The Americans say they want to pull out and leave Caribbean forces to provide security.

They hope that, eventually, the police will take over the job of keeping order.

One reason why many young men and women are applying to join the police is that people sense that the image of the force and its former pride, are being restored. But another, and stronger reason, is that unemployment in Grenada is high.

Discontent about this is growing and there is concern that it poses a long-term threat to stability at a time when the structure of society is fragile. Grenada certainly has an urgent need for a good police force, but the need for help in creating employment is no less pressing.

Student in torture case 'informed'

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

A former student leader who is suing 10 security policemen for 113,000 rands (£64,570) in damages has been accused in the Pretoria Supreme Court of being a police informer who betrayed other political activists.

The charge was made by the advocate for the policemen during cross-examination of Mr Auret Van Heerden, a former president of the liberal and predominately white National Union of South African Students. Mr Van Heerden denied that he had ever been an informer.

Mr Van Heerden, who was detained without trial between September, 1981 and July 1982, had earlier given detailed evidence of alleged torture at the hands of the security police, which included being hooded and given electric shocks.

The case continues.

Madame's 160 girls on Riviera

Nice (AFP) – A court here sentenced Mme Mirelle Griffon to three years in jail and fined her Fr1m (£83,000) after she was found guilty of recruiting young women to work as prostitutes for Arab princes and businessmen on the French Riviera. Eighteen months of her sentence were suspended.

According to the prosecution, Mme Griffon, aged 41, hired 160 girls from all over Europe, all blonde and over 5ft 8in in height. Some worked only once, and were said to earn Fr10,000 for a night's duties and gifts worth up to Fr60,000 each.

Mme Griffon gained 10m francs from her activities, which she ran from luxurious hotels and villas on the Côte d'Azur, the court was told.

Women testifying earlier this week said they had worked for Mme Griffon of their own volition.

Pieces of ex-lover's body kept in freezer

Monchengladbach, West Germany (AP) – A 26-year-old woman has admitted strangling her lover, sawing up his corpse, cooking parts of it and storing the pieces in her home freezer for almost a year.

A spokesman of the Mönchengladbach prosecutor's office said yesterday that Martina Zimmermann had confessed to killing Hans Josef Wirtz

Frau Zimmermann mother of two children, was arrested with her ex-husband on Thursday, three days after a city gardener found 39 plastic freezer containers packed with human flesh

Police said 10 video films with brutal cannibalism scenes were siezed in a search of the Zimmermann home.

The prosecutor's office spokesman said Frau Zimmermann told police that Herr Wirtz, aged 34, an unemployed barber and musician, had been interfering with her plans to return to her ex-husband, Herr Wilhelm Zimmerman.



Frau Zimmermann: Planned to return.

Inquiry opens in Angola into reported breach of Namibia ceasefire

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Angolan and South African military and civilian officials are due to meet somewhere in southern Angola today to investigate claims by Pretoria that the ceasefire agreement reached in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, last week has been breached by guerrillas infiltrating into northern Namibia from Angola.

It will be the second meeting of the joint monitoring commission set up by Angola and South Africa in Lusaka where the first meeting was also held. It is not clear whether the United States, which acted as mediator in Lusaka will be present. The Americans have, however, already opened a monitoring centre in Windhoek, the Namibian capital.

A statement by the Foreign Ministry said that South Africa would be represented on the commission by a Brigadier, three commandants and a senior foreign affairs official. It said that the meeting would also be attended by General Jannie Geldenhuys, the Chief of the Army.

Late on Thursday night Mr Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, claimed that 800 Swapo (South-West Africa People's Organization) guerrillas were moving through southern Angola, and that 200 of them had already crossed into the northern Ovambo and Kavango regions of South African-occupied Namibia.

Mr Botha gave warning of possible "hot pursuit" reprisals against the infiltrators who, he said, were violating Angola's undertaking that Swapo guerrillas would not be allowed to move into the areas vacated by South African troops as they completed the withdrawal from southern Angola begun on January 31.

Diplomatic sources here were uncertain how seriously to take the claimed threat to the ceasefire, particularly as Mr Botha, according to his own account, had been aware of Swapo activity more than a week ago and had discussed it with the Angolans in Lusaka.

On that occasion he apparently accepted the Angolan explanation that some Swapo units might have started moving south before January 31 from points which at that time were not under Angolan control.

South African military souces suggested that Swapo may be trying to get as many of its men as possible down into Namibia, where they can disappear into the largely sympathetic local population, before the ceasefire takes full effect in southern Angola, ending further infiltration.

In talks with American officials in Washington this week, Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, said that Swapo welcomed the disengagement of South African forces in Angola. He said Swapo would abide by the Lusaka agreement but would not lay down its arms until there was a ceasefire in Namibia itself.



Space footage: A newly-released photograph of astronaut Bruce McCandless using a manipulator foot restraint to work outside the space shuttle Challenger on its recent flight

Tunisians quit jobs in post-riots unrest

Tunis (AFP) – A wave of strikes throughout Tunisia appeared to be growing, with no mail deivered since the beginning of the week, social security workers out and bank workers joining them next week. From March 1 bakeries could be hit.

Most primary schoolteachers struck last Tuesday and next day university classes were boycotted in protest against the arrest of Islamic fundamentalists.

Most of the strikes are in support of pay claims but and come at a time when wages are generally raised to compensate for inflation. The violent riots which swept the country twmonths ago over food prices, and the political debate nourished by opposition publications seem to have influenced workers.

Onassis again

Paris – Christina Onassis, thrice-divorced daughter and heiress of the late Greek shipping magnate, Aristotle Onassis, has become engaged to M Thierry Roussel, owner of Parisian modelling agency. They are both 33.

Athens gives in

Athens – Greece has formally renounced its territorial claim on northern Epirus, the mane the Greeks give to southern Albania where a large Greek community has lived for centuries. This conforms with the Helsinki Final Act which says existing frontiers in Europe are inviolable.

Porn only

Madrid (AFP) – Spain is to open its first cinmas specializing in X-rated pornographic films. Twenty-two X-cinemas have been authorized: eight in Madrid, two each in Barcelona, Saville, Valencia, Alicante and Palma de Malorca and one in Almeria, Granada, Lérida and Zaragoza.

Spy executed

Peking (Reuter) – A man was executed in Shanghai for passing on military and political secrets to Taiwan and inciting others to become spies. Zhu Shouzhong, according to a press report, was recruited by Taiwanese intelligence in Hongkong, where he had fled after escaping from a Chinese labour camp.

Terrorists jailed

Genoa (AP) – Nineteen members of the left-wing Red Brigades received jail sentences ranging from 18 months to 25 years for a series of terrorist acts including kidnappings in the Genoa area between 1977 and 1981. They used the money to buy arms.

Births drop

Peking (AFP). – A fall in the birth rate in China's two most populous provinces, Sichuan and Henan, is being interpreted as a boost for the country's one-child birth control policy. In Sichuan the rate fell from 28.98 a 1,000 in 1971 to less than six a 1,000 in 1982.

Plant blasts

Pietermaritzburg (AP) – Three explosions damaged but did not knock out the Georgedale power station near this Natal city early yesterday, police said. No one was injured and nobody claimed responsibility.

Cupboard death

New York, (Reuter) – An armed security guard Roy Shultz, aged 54 was found strangled inside a cupboard at the West German consulate here, on the eighteenth floor of a Park Avenue office building.

Flights cut

Islamabad (AFP) – Pakistan International Airlines cancelled a third of its domestic and international flights as pilots struck for the third day running to protest against the banning of their union.

Dogs eat boy

Madrid – Dogs guarding a house in the town of Cabrerizo, near Salamanca, killed and partially devoured a boy of six who climbed over the wall to retrieve his cap, which playmates had thown to the dogs.

THE ARTS

Composed thoughts

Ged Murray



Stanislaw Skrowaczewski

A year ago the players of the Hallé Orchestra chose Stanislaw Skrowaczewski as the seventh principal conductor in their 125 years' history. Before taking over in Manchester in September, he brings his orchestra to the Barbican tonight. In a programme of Elgar, Beethoven and Sibelius, a London audience will have a chance to sense the distinctive character of a man who spent 19 years as director of the Minnesota Symphony Orchestra, and who, in the 60 years of his life, has conducted and composed his way through Europe, the United States, Israel, South America and Japan.

Cautious in prediction or projection, Skrowaczewski consistently pushes his own character and ideas to the back and sides of a conversation: they become refracted and surface through discussion of others. Like his teacher of composition in Paris, for example, Nadia Boulanger.

"She didn't really teach me: she observed, made suggestions, and always entered into my point of view. She had a mind like an X-ray or a computer: she could turn the pages of a new score and immediately spot the inconsistencies. And she was always right. Artistically we were poles apart: She was at that time under the influence of the new classicism of Stravinsky, which I loved but which didn't inspire me to compose. But this style, and that of Jean Françaix, for instance, brought a necessary clarity to my works which were then confused, over-orchestrated, too polyphonic."

Last March, Skrowaczewski's Clarinet Concerto was introduced to this country. "I felt the drive to compose from the age of four. And my development as a pianist was due not to a desire for a career, but simply to absorb music. Later I had some concerts and apparently they went well. But soon it was boring me, and I preferred to compose." When a war injury damaged his hands, Skrowaczewski turned to conducting.

Skrowaczewski dislikes conducting his own works. "The Clarinet Concerto was programmed before my decision to become principal conductor. As such I would not do anything of mine now. I would not consider it proper." The only way the Hallé is likely to play his music is by special commission: at Minneapolis it was 10 years before he consented to write anything for performance there, and then it was only through lack of literature for the English horn.

Meanwhile, he has specifically asked for guest conductors connected with composing: "Gunther Schuller, I hope, and Henze perhaps. One or two in a season is very good for an orchestra and they have the sort of perspective I appreciate very much."

Skrowaczewski returned, for a time, to Poland. But in 1956 George Szell heard him conduct in Rome and in 1958 invited him to Cleveland. Five years later he and his wife took American citizenship. Szell, whose meticulously prepared, elegantly analytical approach had clearly had its influence on Skrowaczewski, is, for him, "One of the greatest conductors who ever existed. His deep knowledge of style, his wonderful ear for articulation and balance – and his *taste* – all have inspired me. He had the ability to form an orchestra round his ideas".

He speaks of his decision to accept the Hallé post as an emotional, not a rational one. "I felt very happy as I was, enjoying my freedom. But artistically I believed the connexion would be fruitful on both sides. The will and the ideas are there. This is now my life, and it's much easier to speak by doing."

Hilary Finch

Argentina complains of Falkland deadlock

From Douglas Tweedale Buenos Aires

The chairman of a congressional committee of foreign affairs here has said that efforts to normalise relations between Britain and Argentina have reached a dead end because of British intransigence in its negotiating position.

Señor Storani, who heads the House foreign relations committee and is known to be close to President Raúl Alfonsín, told the English language *Buenos Aires Herald* yesterday that diplomatic exchanges between the two countries "have yielded no substantial advantages".

"Britain has only changed the wording and the order of its proposals," Señor Storani told the *Herald*. Later, in an interview with *The Times*, he made it clear that he was referring to a series of "ideas" put forward by Britain last January 26, not to a new British proposal.

Señor also told the local newspaper that he believed there would be no agreement in the near future, and that President Alfonsín planned to deliver a message explaining the status of the indirect negotiations with Britain. He said Señor Alfonsín's message would "try to deflate the exaggerated expectations building up around this issue" rather than unveil a secret agreement.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, Seño Albin Gómez, said that the *Herald* article "represents Señor Storani's personal judgement based on his own knowledge of the issue", and denied that Argentina had received any new proposals from Britain.

This was confirmed by a reliable source in the Foregin Ministry, who said it would be "inexact" to say that contacts with Britain have broken down.

Other diplomatic sources also affirmed that there has been no British reply to Argentina's latest proposals for talks aimed at normalizing relations severed because of the Falklands War.

The most recent diplomaic exchange took place on February 16, when Argentina sent a formal reply to a series of British suggestions relating to the renewal of coommercial and cultural exchanges.

Anti-ETA chants at Basque funeral

From Richard Wigg, San Sebastian

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, said here yesterday that the time had come for "all Basque people" to shed their fear of terrorist violence and to defend democracy and liberty.

He made his dramatic speech after flying to San Sebastion to attend the funeral of Enrique Casas Vila, a Socialist candidate in tomorrow's Basque general election who was assassinated here on Thursday.

The killing, from which ETA is seeking to escape responsibility, brought the Basque election campaign to a abrupt halt. However, the electoral commission has assured the one and a half million Basque voters that polling will go ahead tomorrow.

The Casas killing, which was the first assassination of a parliamentary candidate since the restoration of democracy in 1977, has revived sombre memories of Spain's blood-stained politics.

Señor González said in his address: "Do not ever forget liberty is lost when a people begin to fear to defend it. Particpate fully and say no to terror."

The Prime Minister, whose time of arrival from Madrid was kept secret, was speaking from the Basque Socialist Party headquarters.

As the coffin, draped in both the Spanish and Basque flags, was carried shoulder high by trade unionists through San Sabastian's main streets for a service at the Holy Mary Basilica, thousands of people most of them probably Socialist voters, bravely chanted anti-ETA slogans.

"ETA, you are fascists, you kill workers," and "ETA traitors" were two of the chants. Many people outside the church applauded the singers, and women threw red roses – a symbol of the Socialist Party and of its victory in the 1982 general election on to the coffin.

The killing, coming only hours after ETA had publicly called on voters to back the extreme left-wing Basque nationalist coalition, suggests divisions within the terrorist organization.

ETA's military wing has denied killing Señor Casas, and the "anti-capitalist autonomous commandos," one of its breakaway factions yesterday also disclaimed responsibility, reversing its initial position.

Señor Casas, who only returned to Spain in 1975, the year Franco died, after 14 years working in West Germany told *The Times* last week that ending ETA violence was an essential precondition for reviving the depressed Basque economy.

Señor González emphasized that Señor Casas's name will remain on the ballot and a sympathy vote is obviously likely for the Socialists. An outright majority for the outgoing Basque Nationalist Party now looks less assured.

The Democrats try very hard to be nice to each other

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington



The acrimony of past debates had disappeared when the eight candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination faced each other on Thursday night for the last big event before next week's crucial primary in New Hampshire.

In a nationally-televized debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters the eight hopefuls sought to put past confrontations behind them as they bent over backwards to be nice to each other and to present a semblance of unity.

A realization of the damage which previous clashes have caused the Democratic Party partly explains why the eight decided to concentrate their criticisms on President Reagan rather than on each other. But it was also clear that, following the results of the Iowa precinct caucuses last Monday, five of the eight were preparing themselves for an early departure from the race.

The Justice Department has closed its eight-month investigation into how the 1980 Reagan presidential campaign obtained briefing papers from President Carter's White House – a mini-scandal dubbed "Briefingate" or "Debategate" by the American press. A spokesman said it had found "no credible evidence that the transfer violated any criminal law."

Mr George McGovern and Senators Alan Cranston and Ernest Hollings seemed almost to be rehearsing their exit lines. Mr Reubin Askew, realizing that his days of public exposure are numbered, appeared determined to get in as many words as possible before he called it quits.

The Rev Jesse Jackson is likely to stay in the race longer than the other four, but he seemed uncharacteristically dispirited and displayed little of the oratorical flair that had enlivened previous debates. His normal self-confidence seemed to have been punctured by an early question about antisemitc remarks he is repored to have made.

In the debate Senators Gary Hart a John Glenn solidified their status as the main challengers to Mr Walter Mondale, who maintains a two to one lead over his nearest rivals in the polls.

Senator Glenn drew laughter and applause from the audience when he said: "People say I am dull and boring. I admit to being dull. I don't admit to being boring."

Mr Mondale, looking relaxed and confident of victory in Tuesday's primary, spent most of the time contrasting himself with President Reagan.

One more time: Elizabeth Taylor and her latest fiancé, Victor Luna, leaving a New York restaurant after seeing a Broadway show. He is her seventh fiancé and would be her eighth husband – she married Richard Burton twice

US doctors asked to freeze fees

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

Some 400,000 American physicians will be asked to freeze their fees for a year beginning immediately, according to Dr Joseph Boyle, president-elect of the powerful American Medical Assiciation (AMA). "We are concerned that the cost of health care continues to rise", Dr Boyle told *The Los Angeles Times*. "We are amware of the high level of anxiety among patients that they may find it difficult to pay for the care that they need".

The proposed nationwide voluntary fee freeze follows a somilar action taken last by the California Medical Assicitaion's house Delegates, which urged other state medical associations to follow suit.

In recent years the fees of physician have consistently accounted for about 19 per cent of the total cost of health care, according to medical association statistics.

Last year doctors' fees rose 7.5 per cent nationally compared with 6.4 per cent for all medical care and 9.3 per cent for hospital care.

Dr Boyle said a main motive for recommending the fee freeze was to avoid the possibility of medical care being rationed. The AMA has long arned thast rationing is a possibility that could lead to a decrease in quality of care.

Death row veteran waits for Japanese justice

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

In Japan the wheels of justice turn slowly; sometimes they just stop. That is why Sadamichi Hirasawa, convicted in the spectacular 1948 Imperial Bank murder case, this month turned 92 behind bars in a detention centre in northern Japan.

Each day for nearly 29 years he has waited on Death Row, longer than any condemmed man still alive, uncertain whether it would be the last. In Japan, the condemned do not know when their time is up.

Controversy still swirls round the case Hirasawa staunchly maintains his innocence. Doubts about the polic investigation, carried out during the height of the postwar occupatin, remain unanswered. The Justice Minister, for its own reasons, balks at carrying out the court-ordered execution.

Successive Justice Ministers have refused to approve the execution order. Hirasawa is one of the last convicted during the murky postwar era, when police had more power and a murder conviction could be based on circumstantial evidence.

In Tokyo, Hirasawa's supporters marked the birthday by filing another plea for clemency with the Justice Minister. The Save Hirasawa Committee calls the continued imprisonment a "barbaric infringement of human rights". They rear Hirasawa will die of ill health before the 30-year limit on carrying out the death penalty

More than a dozen motions for retrial (the case was reopened in the mid-1960s) and calls for amnesty have been made since 1955 when the Supreme Court sealed his fate.

Hirasawa was a well-known tempera painter in mid-1948 when police arrested and charged him with the cyanide murder 12 people, including a child, at the Shiinamachi branch in Tokyo of the now defunct Imperial Bank. Exhibitions are still held to support his cause.

The crime occurred at closing time on January 26, 1948. A man posing as a health official entered the bank and announced that he had come to administer an anti-dysentery medicine. All but four of the 16 present died from the poison-laced dose. While they collapsed, the culprit robbed the bank.

Hirasawa was one of about 2,000 with some link to the scene whom the police questioned. He failed, however, to prove the origins of a large – for a poor artist – amount of money he carried. From the trial's start, Hirasawa claimed innocence. A confession obtained by police, he says, was made under severe duress after 37 days of questioning.

His supporters strongly believe that the highly sophisticated poison crime was probably carried out by an expert, possibly a former military man. Hirasawa had no background in chemistry.

Lebanon presses for UN force with real power

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The Lebanese Government has made clear that it is looking for an effective United Nations force to be deployed throughout its territory with the power to keep the peace rather than serve as an abstract symbol, hostage to Lebanon's volatile politics.

Mr Rashid Fakhouri, the Lebanese representative, told the UN Security Council that the mandate given to any UN force must be proportionate to the enormous task involved. Lebanon would prefer the peace keeping operation not to be limited to Beirut but extended to the areas occupied by Syrian and Israeli forces.

Since the success of UN peace keeping operations is dependent on the goodwill of the parties to a ceasefire, Lebanon is asking for the impossible. Mr Fakhouri's remarks appear to indicate the Lebanese Government's reluctance to see a UN force in place.

Lebanese officials have recently expressed the fear that deployment of UN peacekeepers along specific demarcations, such as the Beirut "green line", would be tantamount to partition. But diplomats believe that their underlying concern would be the inability of a UN force to protect President Amin Gemayel's Government from collapse.

Saudi peace role pleases Whitehall

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

Prince Abdullah, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, met Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday and was told that Britain welcomed Saudi efforts to mediate in the Lebanon crisis.

The two men met for an hour to discuss the Gulf war as well as the situation in Beirut.

Earlier, the Prince met Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary. They discussed a "range of defence interests", according to sources. The Ministry of Defence would not comment on speculation about an Anglo-Saudi arms deal.

Prince Abdullah saw Mr Heseltine after spending the previous day with the Royal Armoured Corps at Bovington, Dorset and the Royal Artillery at Larkhill, on Salisbury Plain.

A firing demonstration by two of the Army's new Challenger tanks was among the events arranged for him. He also saw a 105mm light gun being flown into position by Puma helicopter and fired, and inspected the new MCV80 armoured car.

The Prince, who leaves for Riyadh today, is commander of the 25,000-strong paramilitary National Guard, for which Britain supplied £200m worth of communications equipment in a secret deal two years ago.

Identity cards pledge

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Mr Ray Whitney, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Foreign Office, said after talks with French officials here that he was "quite optimistic" about the chances of finding a solution to the disputed use of excursion identity cards by British citizens wishing to travel to France without passports.

He described his talks with M Francis Gulmann, secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry, as "very useful and constructive", and said that the British had presented a set of important proposals to the French which were now being considered. He declined to give details.

French officials caused a furore last August when they refused entry to a number of British citizens of black Commonwealth origin whose only indentity papers were the so-called "no-passport excursion indentity cards", which are issued by travel agents for short visits of up to 60 hours in France.

The card contains no indication of the bearer's place of birth or nationality.

Auf Wiedersehen Wolfgang, hello Tom

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

For the seventh successive year Christian topped the list in 1983 of the most popular names for German baby boys, while Stefanie was the first choice for girls.

In the absence of birth announcements in national newspapers, from which diligent social historians can compose their annual nomenclature of the upper classes, track is kept of infant Germans by the Society for the German Language in Wiesbaden. And last year's tally shows that today's Germans respond to very different appellations from the Wolfgangs and Gertrudes of yesteryear.

French names – Nicole, Melanie, Nadine, Stefanie – are especially popular for girls, while boys strike a more biblical note: Sebastian, Daniel, Benjamin and, of course, Christian.

Newcomers to last year's list include Florian and Sarah, but the top 10 have otherwise remained more or less constant. However, if Kathrin and Katharina were grouped together, this name would easily head the table for girls.

According to Dr Wilfried Seibicke of the University of Heidelberg, whose list more accurately covers the social spectrum than *The Times* annual record by drawing on exhaustive lists from register offices throughout West Germany, seven of the boys' top 10 have remained in the charts since 1977.

Boys	Girls
1 Christian (1)	Stefanie (1)
2 Sebastian (5)	Julia (3)
3 Michael (3)	Christine or Christina (2)
4 Daniel (2)	Katharina (9)
5 Alexander (8)	Anna or Anne (8)
6 Stefan (4)	Kathrin (4)
7 Benjamin (9)	Melanie (6)
8 Florian (–)	Nadine (5)
9 Thomas (10)	Sarah (–)
10 Andreas (7)	Nicole (7)

1982 positions in parentheses

Fixtures in the girls' list are Stefanie, fluctuating between first and second, Christina (or Christine), Melanie, Nicole and Kathrin.

Sabrina – the most fashionable of fashionable names – soared up the charts, but equally quickly vanished. Her successor, Romina, now doing nicely, seemed similarly ephemeral, drawing apparently from Romina Power, an Italian pop singer.

People say the old names are back in vogue, but there seem to be few young Friedrichs, Konrads, or Dorotheas around. And, of course, there is one boy's name virtually unknown for anyone under the age of 40: Adolf.

THE ARTS

Opera

Unmagical through thicket and thin

Faust

Bloomsbury Theatre

Goethe is said to have looked to Beethoven for a musical setting of his *Faust;* his opinion of Louis Spohr's opera of 1813 has not be recorded, but surely even a man of his dubious musical taste would have been grateful not to be associated with it. For, instead of following the path newly trodden by the poet, Spohr and his librettist made their own way through the thicket of sources, and of course they got rather considerably less far.

This Faust is an ardent young Romantic hero in pursuit of love, tricked and foiled by a Mephistofeles who is merely a conjuror procuring homicides or translocations hither and yon in almost every scene (and there are quite a lot of those). What results is a cross between *Don Giovanni* and pantomime, with a score that no macabre, magical or melodramatic situation will ever sway from its mild pleasantness.

Even so, the piece is worth reviving when it is so well done by University College Opera, and when it arouses such puzzlement about nineteenth century taste. Victoria and Albert themselves asked for the revision of 1851 used in this production, converting the original *Singspiel* into a fully sung opera, and in its first form the work impressed Weber by its adumbration of what in Wagner's hands became the *leitmotif,* even if Spohr's unexceptional little ideas are a very long way from achieving that kind of character and range. Weber and Berlioz were surely much more useful examples to Wagner.

At least the score has a thoroughly prepared and recently played performance under Christopher Fifield. Robert Carsen's production sets the opera at the time of its composition, which causes some problems: Empire ladies were not commonly saved from *fates* worse than death by posses of armed knights, nor Regency beaux slaughtered by sorcery. But the new period does give Robert Dean an appropriately Byronic persona for a strong interpretation of the title role. Roger Bryson is an eminently plausible Mephistofeles, stern and dark of voice, the black Leporello of the opera, and the ladies, of nobility and sentiment, are very effectively portrayed by Elizabeth Ritchie and Louise Winter respectively.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Lost innocence

Brighton Rock

Belgrade, Coventry

Graham Greene wrote that *Brighton Rock* was begun as a detective story and "continued, I am sometimes tempted to think, as an error of judgement." Its curious, distinctive amalgam of thriller and philosophical novel did not deter Frank Harvey from adapting it for the London stage within five years of its publication.

As revised by Stephen Wyatt for Simon Dunmore's production, the Harvey version works better than you might expect, making great play with cross-cut episodes (some of only a few lines) marked by quick lighting changes, though some long static scenes remain.

Adrian Rees's set fits a balconied stretch of promenade, a cavernous Ghost Train, the table at Snow's and Pinkie's bedroom-headquarters on the the stage while still managing to leave space for the actors. In the opening sequences there almost seems room for the hunted Fred Hale (David Goodland) to escape, but the protection gang has numerous entrances to appear from and can close in fast.

The design's steel-grey elegance, however, departs radically from the seediness so painstakingly evoked in the novel, and it irons out contrast. Meanwhile the same thing has happened with the casting. Everyone is roughly the same age and, despite Greene's emphasis on Rose's mousiness and the fat or spotty plainness of the sunbathing girls, there is not an unattractive bit of "polony" in sight.

Kevin McMonagle's Pinkie is no tender lad of 17 with experience-hardened eyes, but a Kray lookalike of 25, or so, with very few stirrings of terror or incipient compassion.

In the interview with Colleoni (for which Richard Moore adopts a heavy Jewish accent and an outfit like a wedding usher), he is smart and largely undaunted by his adversary or surroundings, the latter comprising two cushions added to what has just been an eating-house banquette. Without some suggestion of innocence (a crucial theme in the book) a whole dimension is lost; his death is simply the baddie's come-uppance.

Fortunately the women have a firm grip on the essentials, and Andrea Wray's trusting ingenuousness as Rose is so convincing that you stop minding about her Singer Sargent profile. Likewise, Davilia David may not be nearly ample or mature enough for Ida (actually created in 1943 by Hermione Baddeley). But as an implacable avenging angel cheerfully running on a fuel of Guinness, she knows what she wants and gets it.

Anthony Masters



Kevin McMinagle and Andrea Wray as Pinkie and Rose

Concert

Of monsters and men

London Sinfonietta/Knussen

Bloomsbury

I know music is pretty diverse these days, but I doubt you could find a more curious couple than the two main works in the Arts Council's present touring programme. In the blue corner we have *In Sleep In Thunder,* in double abstraction presenting us with Elliott Carter's response to Robert Lowell's response to the human condition, and in the red, blood- red and dripping, H. K. Gruber's *Frankenstein!!,* which knows nothing about Man but a good deal about monsters, vampires, bats and corpses.

One might have feared the two would cancel each other out, but the contrasts invigorated both, as did excellently acute perfomances by the London Sinfonietta under Oliver Knussen, with Martyn Hill again taking up the challenge of Carter and Gruber himself, doing his inimitable impression of a werewolf, as children's entertainer and cabaret artiste.

If, nevertheless, the Carter tended rather to hang fire, that work is possibly because it is a less wonderful work than it ought to be. Coming at the end of a triptych of late vocal compositions, it lacks the excitement its predecessors had in venturing on something new: here Carter knows only too well how to work the medium of voice plus mixed instrumental ensemble.

The words are a stumbling block too. In making Lowell's sort-of sonnets into sort-of songs, Carter inevitably slows them to a pace too ponderous for the wit to remain or the philosophising to appear other than pompous. Mr Hill did well to draw out what is fresh, vital and purely musical in Carter's phrases instead of seeking to interpret the texts, but still the work only really caught light when the instruments were in control.

Gruber's piece is differently balanced, indeed wholly and gloriously unbalanced, but here, too, one listened through the macabre nursery rhymes to the marvellous strangeness of their orchestral landscape. This is, of course, utterly shoddy, corrupt, banal and idiotic music, but done with such an exact feeling for those qualities that it achieves its own elegance. And Gruber's performance, through often repeated, is still as naive and nasty as ever it was.

There are, also two instrumental items, well paired with the principal works. Robin Holloway's *Aria* precedes Carter as a seriously argued song without words, and Harrison Birtwhistle offers a clockwork of musical machines before the toys of Gruber.

Paul Griffiths

Television

Fall into bad hands

As if to remind us, amidst the discussion about its alleged sins, that it still nourishes virtue, the BBC last night launched the first of a series of 20 plays by writers new to television with *Just Another Little Blues Song,* by John Harvey.

Mr Harvey, who is a writer of pulp fiction, Westerns and thrillers, set his story in Soho, presumably before it was cleaned up. This Soho would make Sir Kenneth Newman reach for his telephone at once.

Frank is an over-the-hill saxophonist, playing for his supper and the wherewithal to pursue what he considers to be racing certainties, in a seedy little club. The well-known perversity of horses when it comes to running to form has put him in debt to a gang, and the nub of the play was his struggle - not terribly desperate - to raise the money to pay them off.

He raises it at last by persuading a pimp who owes him a favour to provide him with a certainty (can that really be done?), but his soft heart impels him to give it to the club owner who is also being threatened.

It was plain from the start that Frank would come to a sticky end, and sure enough we last saw him about to have his hands broken. It was a dated little story but very well acted, principally by Adam Faith as the feckless Frank, Gwen Taylor as his ex-wife, and Alun Lewis as one of the heavies.

This BBC2 production, by Terry Coles, with direction by John Bruce, gave Mr Harvey every assistance and the music, by Duncan Lamont, was very good although his saxophone playing in Frank's stead rather offset the key notion that Frank was over the hill.

Dennis Hackett

Radio

Female voices full of western promise

I am rather sympathetic to the lecture as form of communication – from which you may correctly deduce that I spent many hours of my youth in an ancient and encrusted seat of learning on the receiving end of many of them. I do believe that I enjoyed and was the wiser for a well-made lecture even then. However that may be, these days I rather look forward to the annual Reith ritual – three hours of solo talk in which a man (and once in *1961* a woman) can state a case uninterrupted by a single carping question or another whingeing point of view. And last week the same went for The Hibbert Lecture (Radio 4, February 21; producer, Sue Davies).

This is the first time in its 100 year history that this lecture has been broadcast. Generally, I understand, it has been liberal Christian in tone and previous lecturers have included such figures as Albert Schweitzer and Sir Alister Hardy. The 1984 occasion was notable, then, not only for being the first to be heard by several hundred thousand people at the same time, but also because it was delivered by a woman, Dr Ursula King, Lecturer in Theology and Religious Studies at Leeds University. And you might say that this latter fact alone offered a sufficient justification for the subject she had chosen to explore. *Voices of Protest: Voices of Promise – Exploring Spirituality for a New Age* developed the argument that women, now emerging from centuries of relegation to lesser roles, have unique qualities of sensitivity and vision from which it might be possible "to create a truly life-enhancing and world-transforming spirituality".

In some respects I found myself as sympathetic to Dr King's argument as to her lecture format. It has often seemed to me – in as far as one can generalize on such a matter – that women are in certain respects more sensitive, more common-sensible, more practical, less childishly vainglorious than men. But is the anger at the "injustice of sexism" which Dr King sees as a fuel which will conduct them to their vision any different from the anger of any other kind of group that feels itself hard done by? Is anger a starting point from which anyone can truly hope to create a new spirituality? And besides, is spirituality something that either women or men can in any sense *create?*

I also found myself asking whether women in general, or even feminist women in particular, can possibly be said to have any better-integrated "vision of wholeness" than the men, or to deny more comprehensively "the validity of an exclusive either/or". All in all, I came away from Dr King's address more *stimulated,* but feeling that while it would certainly be to our advantage if many attitudes and behaviour patterns between men and women could be transformed, many of them are of a hidden kind which the somewhat exhortationary tone that Dr King increasingly adopted will do little to shift. I have the suspicion that we shall still be left with the problem that affects both sexes equally: that we are human.

Perhaps it was this liking for the single, uninterrupted voice that also made me prefer that first series of *Barnes' People,* – monologues each spoken by a distinguished performer – to Peter Barnes' second set now running on Radio 3 under the direction of Ian Cotterell. These are duologues and in coming nearer to being plays, they have lost those satisfactory inward and reflective qualities of the solo.

Both local station and the BBC have been giving some attention to the half-centenary of Elgar's death. Capital Radio in cooperation with Worcester's Radio Wyvern last Sunday put out Robin Blake's *Enigma* in which the composer in the last summer of his life surveys some of its landmarks. This was another single voice, but one that did on this occasion win me over. I think that in his writing Mr Blake had not really managed to capture the reminiscent feel of a man alone with his memories, and this was aggravated by John Woodvine's Elgar. Was he miscast? Or misdirected? At all event he sounded nothing like an old man remembering. For this, superbly done, it was necessary to turn to Timothy West, repeating his performance of the dying composer, in a second hearing of Douglas Slater's *The Last Recording* (Radio 4, February 23; director Ian Cotterell), a stylish play in which Mr West was much assisted by the well-judged writing of his monologues.

David Wade



SPORTING DIARY

Bullyettes

A man who has long umpired women's hockey is giving it up because he cannot stand the violence. Tony McGarva made his decision after a recent match in which a player pushed him in the chest with her stick after she had been ordered off. "It was a very rough game," McGarva said. "Players were continually arguing and the language would have made a docker blush. I am too old to take this kind of aggro." The North Humberside Ladies (!) Hockey League called for a full report on the game.

Botham up

Ian Botham official testimonial season T-shirts are already on sale. They come in three different designs, all with a picture of our hero in mid-slog and a slogan that captures nicely the man's shy, retiring nature: "Beefy Botham: the Great All Rounder". Only £3.95. I can just picture them in the Long Room at Lord's in the summer.

● **The England cricketers are so determined not to drink the water in Faisalabad on their imminent tour of Pakistan that they are taking their own. The Test and County Cricket Board is flying out eight days' supply, and could send a doctor and basic rations as well.**

On the spot

Stockport County proved themselves the League's worst penalty takers in their Associate Members' Cup match with Crewe Alexandra on Wednesday. With the score 2-2 after extra time, the match was to be decided on penalties. Stockport not only missed all three of theirs, but each duff kick sailed over the bar to the goalkeeper's right at almost exactly the same spot, two of them right out of the ground. Crewe scored with all three.

Off target

Bognor Regis Town of the Isthmian League were planning to celebrate their centenary in 1995. Now they discover the club was actually founded in 1883, but it took 12 years to get round to joining a league. Club officials are frantically trying to organize a celebration in what remains of their centenary season, and hope to fix a friendly with a League club.

● **Quote of the week: "It seems a lot to give the Wimbledon champion £60,000 or £70,000, but it is all relative to income."** – *Wimbledon's new chairman, Buzzer Haddingham.*

Chap's cap

Steve "Chap" Redfern is the fastest prop in the business, admittedly not all that fast by the standards of ordinary men. He was England's replacement prop at Twickenham for the match against Ireland last Saturday, and he told his colleagues on the bench that he had no chance of playing, as replacement props seldom get the call. When Colin White was injured, his colleagues turned to remind him of his prophecy, only to find that Redfern was already on the pitch and champing at the bit. He got the nickname "Chap", apparently a normal form of address in Leicestershire, after he was introduced to a state governor on a tour of Australia. "How are you doing, chap?" Redfern asked him. He has a second nickname: "Granite". No one will tell me why.

● **It grieves me to report that the match between Tasmania and New South Wales in the Tasmanian town of Devonport was abandoned on the last day. Gale-force winds snapped the sightscreen in two.**

Olga's switch

Olga Korbut, the Tolkienesque star of the Munich Olympics, will soon be competing again, though this time the slick and supple movements will not be performed by her but by her three-year-old black stallion, Taken Kumon. Olga, now 28, married to a pop star and with a four-year-old son, is into dressage. Viktor Urgyumov, Byelorussia's senior dressage coach, says she is "ambitious, persistent, very well coordinated and painstaking". Of course.

Any advance?

Fascinating facts: I learn that 147 is not the maximum possible break in snooker after all. If your opponent leaves you a foul snooker, you can pocket any colour, which counts as a red, and then your colour as normal. If it happens before a ball has been potted, you can take a colour for one point, followed by the black, then all 15 reds, with 15 blacks, and last, the colours. Total: 155. Has anyone ever done it?

Simon Barnes

BARRY FANTONI



'Honestly, monsieur, this £160 is a gift, not a bribe to leave your union'

Noises off, murmurs on

Bryan Appleyard meets Samuel Beckett, in London to fine tune a new production of 'Waiting for Godot'

Estragon: All the dead voices.
Vladimir: *They make a noise like wings.*
Estragon: Like leaves.
Vladimir: *Like sand.*
Estragon: Like leaves.
(Silence)

"Like *leaves.*" Samuel Beckett demonstrates how to speak the line – with a suggestion of argumentative insistence. He almost whispers in a soft, surprisingly light Irish accent. The actor tries again. "Like *leaves.*" Beckett nods his approval. The atmosphere in the theatre is one of intensity with no prospect of relief.

Beckett is at the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith rehearsing his most famous play, *Waiting for Godot*, which baffled audiences 30 years ago and is now an A level set text. His extraordinay output of novels and plays have made him, arguably, the most internationally established and revered figure in modern literature. Even this rehearsal is being observed by two American academics who are working on a three-volume book entitled *Beckett at Work* and by Professor Jim Knowlson, founder of Reading University's Beckett Archive which, since 1970, has been collecting every fragment of his work. Beckett's very presence imposes a powerful aura of concentration which engulfs the entire auditorium.

The figure that is the focus of all attention is skeletally thin. He wears brown plimsolls, seemingly expensive grey flannel trousers, a shapeless beige pullover with leather patches on the elbows and a sheepskin coat, again apparently expensive. His lined, haunted, aquiline face is familiar from a thousand photographs but the light voice, the depth of the Irish accent and his shy warmth come as a series of mild shocks.

The story behind his two-week trip to London comes as an even greater shock. He is 78 in April and increasingly reluctant to leave his two French homes – but his visit to London represents the climax of his generous determination to complete a strange circle of events which began in 1954 when a 21-year-old white boy from Chicago was sentenced to death for armed bank robbery in California.

Rick Cluchey came from a standard rough background and the crime was common. But the robbers made the mistake of taking one of the bank's security guards a few blocks in their getaway car. This left them open to a kidnapping charge and a possible death penalty.

The death sentence was not carried out, but Cluchey served 12 years in San Quentin prison. During that time he was bitten by the theatre bug. He formed a group in the prison and put on three Beckett plays: *Waiting for Godot, Endgame* and *Krapp's Last Tape*. In 1966 he left prison but kept the group going. It became the San Quentin Drama Workshop, a loose association of about 12 professional actors held together by Cluchey in Chigago. It is the only work Cluchey has done since he left San Quentin and clearly the only work he feels is worth doing. Apart from plays by Cluchey himself, the group performs only Beckett, an extraordinary way to support wife and children.



Beckett and 'Godot' actors: ex-death row prisoner Rick Cluchey and godson Louis Beckett Cluchey

"I've averaged about $8,000 a year since I left San Quentin. That's around what we in America call the poverty line", he comments.

His son, who plays A Boy in this production, is ten. His name is Louis Beckett Cluchey. He was born in Edinburgh and taken to Paris at the age of four months to meet the man who had agreed to be his godfather. The childless Beckett had bought him a coat which the Clucheys couldn't bring themselves to explain was far too big. The Clucheys' five-year-old daughter is named Suzanne after Beckett's wife.

In September Cluchey's devotion will pay off with more permanent work. He is to begin lecturing on *Samuel Beckett and the Universal Constant* at De Paul University, Chicago. But for that course he has found he has had to break one of the rules his master laid down. Beckett had told him he must never read Deirdre Bair's biography. Beckett has not read it himself and declined to cooperate with its writing.

But until now the history of the San Quentin group has been incomplete. Its repertory contained two of the original plays performed in the prison fully endorsed – i.e. directed – by Beckett. This meeting at Riverside finally completes the circle. All three of the prison productions will have been transmuted into fully professional shows blessed with Beckett's imprimatur. For two weeks Beckett is now providing the final fine tuning. The production will be staged twice for schoolchildren at Riverside before leaving for the Adelaide Festival in Australia.

But it is clearly an effort. Beckett arrives at the theatre from his West End hotel by Underground and sits in the bar drinking black coffee and at the mercy of somebody's decision to get on with rehearsals.

"You're not interviewing me are you?" he asks and fixes me with a pale, unwavering stare through his thick glasses. "I don't give interviews." This is the determined privacy against which Bair had to struggle.

But once the distinction between interview and chat is established his conversation becomes surprisingly frank. He is genuinely unhappy to be talking about himself, preferring to direct attention to the actors and director. He never makes the usual vain assumptions of the famous that his interlocutor knows all about his career. The most familiar biographical elements emerge as if he had lived in complete anonymity for the past 77 years.

His age is beginning to tell. His posture, always described as "athletic" or "ramrod straight", has acquired a stoop around shoulder level and he betrays a slight impatience with his lapses of memory. Friends say he has been deeply distressed by the deaths of Patrick Magee, the actor for whom Beckett wrote *Krapp's Last Tape*, having only heard his voice on the radio, and of Roger Blin, the French director who has been one of the most loyal champions of his work.

In rehearsal Beckett stands by the stage, his unwavering gaze fixed on the action. Occasionally he murmurs directions waving his hands like a conductor to catch the rhythms of the the language. Every so often he walks up to the actors, whispers in a voice inaudible to the rest of us, and demonstrates how to move, walking slowly with a curious stiff gait.

Everything he does reinforces the symmetries of the play, tightens it, makes points more explicit, and action more precise. No variation from his instructions goes unnoticed. Nobody kids themselves that perfection is possible.

At lunch the obligatory Beckett fanatic pops up. Beckett is sitting awkwardly on a bar stool, sipping half a pint of Guinness largely unnoticed among the crowds. A man elbows his way into the conversation.

"Excuse me, Mr Beckett, you don't mind do you? I've been a fan of yours all my life. I've been reading your stuff for 40 years."

"You must be very tired," responds Beckett and breaks out into a startling gale of laughter.

For the duration of lunch Beckett indulges the fanatic, clearly happy to be engaged in slightly mindless banter. But the rest of the time the overwhelming impression is of a winter of painful and shocking sensitivity. The deaths among his few loyal friends have evidently cut him deeply. The austere and profoundly moving course of his work has always suggested an approaching cul-de-sac but invariably in the past he seems to have found new ways ahead. Whether he can do so again remains to be seen.

Woodrow Wyatt

My hot tip for Fleet Street

The silly season for the press used to be late July and August. It is now all the year round, at least for the tabloids including those with pretensions to being serious. On Tuesday, the whole of the front page of the *Daily Express*, most of page 2, the whole of page 3, and a large chunk of page 9 were occupied by "Andrew's new girl". The story made the front page of the *Daily Mail*, too, but not so noisily as they had borrowed it from the Express. It was predictably on the front page of *The Sun. The Daily Mirror* must have been asleep: I could find nothing about "Andrew's new girl" in it. However, on Wednesday, the Mirror and the Mail were on the trail, reporters and photographers blazing, as were the other tabloids and so on into Thursday...

What had the "new girl" done to merit all this attention? She and her parents had given a birthday party for Prince Andrew and a few other friends for which the lady in question was reported to have cooked the food. The Express recorded that at 1.30 am the Prince left with the rest of the guests who were laughing and joking and that he gave the young lady a goodnight kiss.

It sounds pretty ordinary. Hardly the stuff for acres of newsprint when Lebanon is on fire, the Iraq-Iran war may be about to dislocate the West's oil supplies and there is even Mr Wedgwood Benn and his by-election to write about. But Miss Koo Stark having run her boring day, Prince Andrew's "new girl" can now expect massive publicity and unrestrained harassment. There is no longer a close season for the silly season save among those few newspapers who do not think their readers need a keyhole account of any friendships Prince Andrew may happen to make. Any notion that he is entitled to privacy off duty has vanished.

Mark Thatcher, as the son of a famous mother, gets the same treatment. Yes, the Texan lady who went to church with him last Sunday is attractive. But what they may think about each other would once have been thought their private business. Can the mass circulation newspapers really be right in believing that their readers want to have endlessly exposed to them the details of the commonplace doings of the children of those in high places? The odd mention, perhaps, but hardly the floods of tittle tattle and pictures.

There may be more readers than the tabloids suppose like the father of Prince Andrew's "new girl" who sensibly observed: "You don't believe everything you read in the papers, do you?".

In Mrs Thatcher's case, her son is being used as a vehicle for unpleasant digs at her of the "willing to wound but afraid to strike" kind. This distasteful course was started by *The Observer*, which thought it had got hold of a scandal over Cementation's Oman contract which it could project with a show of high-mindedness as a matter of genuine public concern. It was reminiscent of the "I made my excuses and left" technique of fearless reporters exposing vice but running out of courage at the moment of truth.

Previously, the charge has been that he was too much of a playboy. Now the charge in *The Observer*, infected by the permanent silly season, is that he has been doing something useful and that Mrs Thatcher ought to be ashamed of him; and of herself for allowing him to be with her for part of the time on her travels; something which was known to the press at the time and then excited no comment.

I agree with Lord Aberconway's letter in *The Times* on Tuesday, "Why should Mrs Thatcher, when visiting a foreign country on Britain's behalf, refrain from supporting the efforts of the only British company seeking a contract, just because a member of her family is employed by that company and he is one of a team seeking to win that contract?"

Lord Aberconway, president of John Brown, seems relieved that he is not related to Mrs Thatcher. That would have brought charges of nepotism when she stood out against President Reagan trying to stop his company fulfilling its contract to supply gas turbines for the Russian pipeline. I hope Mrs Thatcher will tell future malicious enquirers trying to make scandal out of her doing her national duty in Oman to buzz off.

Newspapers should be careful how shoddy they get. ITN and BBC News have vast popular audiences without unremitting harassment of the children of the famous when they are doing things which most reasonable people would regard as their private affair, and without trying to create scandals where there are none. Fleet Street mass circulations have been going down, perhaps because they are abandoning real news to the wireless and television.

Though it must be conceded that the best printed national newspaper, the *Morning Star*, does not leap in circulation by being earnest. Maybe it should publicize more its racing tipster, Cayton, who has the genuine popular touch. When I was at Oxford I had a standing order with a bookmaker for a bet on every Cayton nap selection.

I won so much that the bookmaker closed my account. Between last November 7 and February 23 Cayton headed the national newspapers' nap selections listed in the *Sporting Life* with a profit of £10.61 to a £1 level stake. The worthy *Guardian*'s nap tipster was at the bottom with a loss of £29.34. Now that's real news.

Michael Tracey on a dispute over the report that shocked the nation

Four out of ten children have seen video nasties, questionnaire reveals

Six-year-old addicts of the video nasties

Four children in ten watch video nasties

How the national press splashed Dr Hill's claims: but how scientifically accurate are they?

Casting cold water on the ketchup

On November 24 last year the press reported, under bold headlines, that many children barely of school-going age regularly watched violence, sex and horror on their television screens. The stories were based on a press conference to announce the report of the Parliamentary Group Video Inquiry. The report, entitled *Video Violence and Children: Children's Viewing Patterns in England and Wales*, had been completed by Dr Clifford Hill, director of the inquiry.

The *Daily Star* said: "Appalled researchers discovered that: video nasties have replaced party games and conjurors as entertainment at children's birthday parties: teenagers are left with the family video recorder for 'company' by parents who do without a baby sitter; parents seem unaware of the true nature of many of the films: children pressurize their classmates or younger brothers and sisters to watch nasties and poke fun at the 'scaredy-cats' who refuse.

"The report – sponsored by MPs, peers and leading churchmen – is based on questionnaires sent to 206 schools in England and Wales and interviews with more than 6,000 children, their parents and teachers."

The problem is that almost every statement contained in the group's report and uttered at the press conference is denied by the other members of the research team who compiled the data, the members of Oxford Polytechnic's television research unit.

The story begins on June 27 last year. A meeting was convened at the House of Lords, with Lord Nugent in the chair. Present were six Lords, three MPs and representatives of various churches. Also there were Dr Hill, a sociologist, who said he had become concerned by evidence of the damaging effects of video nasties on children, and Mr Brian Brown, a Methodist minister and head of Oxford Polytechnic's newly formed television research unit.

After a meeting in July it was agreed to launch a research project with Hill as director and Brown as associate director, with funds provided by the "sponsoring group" – essentially those who attend the original meeting – to the Oxford unit.

In the meantime, Graham Bright, Tory MP for Luton East, had come top of the poll for Private Members bills and had decided to introduce legislation to ban video nasties. What had been conceived as a study possibly lasting two years was suddenly under pressure to produce early results.

A questionnaire was prepared and distributed to 6,000 schoolchildren, to be completed by them under the supervision of their teachers. The teachers were asked to lead a discussion, get the children to describe their reactions to certain video films, and record the main points. These were then to be returned to the research team for analysis. All the correspondence was in the name of the Oxford Unit and signed ether by Brown or Hill.

The large part of the published report, and most of the statements in the press, derive *not* from the quantifiable data provided by the children filling in the questionnaire but from these notes of impressions made by teachers. This is the main point of contention: it is very difficult to see what can be claimed for such information, which of its nature can have no real social scientific significance.

A note prepared by the television research unit for Oxford Polytechnic's management committee states categorically: "Our main worry was that we knew that the report contained assertions and exaggerated claims allegedly supported by factual evidence. We know no grounds to support this statement. The report too was skewed and distorted and appeared to have been completed without any reference to the research data which we were still assembling. We know as a matter of fact that we did not collect much of the evidence cited..."

Dr Hill told me that many of the "teachers' reports" were passed directly on to him unopened by the research unit. What remains contentious is the social scientific validity of such reports, and the wisdom of placing such information alongside data gathered from a questionnaire survey. The research unit quotes many instances where it believes that statements made in the report have no support in statistical evidence. Examples include: "The percentage of all children (including those from non-television families) whose families...". *There was no data on TV ownership in the questionnaire.* "Working class children, especially those from large families, appear most at risk in watching the nasties". *The survey did not ask any questions about family size, and the socio-economic data was contained not in the children's questionnaire but in one issued to parents which had not been analysed when that conclusion was arrived at and the report published.*

The popular press delighted in the comments in the report of nine-year-old Warren: "I like all the blood coming out", and Stevie, also nine: "I like the bit in *Driller Killer* where he puts a man up on sticks and.... then he gets his drill and puts it through his stomach and he screams for ages." These quotes come from a "Coventry teacher with a class of primary school children". But no primary school children in Coventry were involved in the survey.

Dr Hill told me it had been assumed the school was in Coventry because the envelope carried a Coventry postmark.

The major source of the rift between Dr Hill and the television research unit was caused by what they regarded as the haste with which the report was written.

On November 9, Dr Hill delivered by hand to Mr Brown's office a yellow folder containing a draft report. For reasons which remain unclear, the members of the unit did not notice this until November 14, also discovering a note to the effect that their comments had to be with Dr Hill by 5pm *that day* because of the wish to keep up with the timetable of the Bright legislation.

No data at all had been available from computer printout until November 8, the day before the draft report was delivered.

Dr Hill commented on this: "I did not begin to write the statistical section of this report until I saw the trends already clear. The fact that that first draft went without statistics does not mean to say that I didn't have it. I had got the tables all drawn out ready to put the statistics in but of course they were changing with each printout."

In short, the body of the report was written before any statistical evidence was available, and most of the statements it contains are based on the teachers' reports, which can have no statistical significance.

The final issue which has been raised involved the removal of all the data and related correspondence from the television research unit by Dr Hill on November 25. Mr Brown was not present, his assistants protested at the removal but were told that permission had been given by a Polytechnic official. Dr Hill is adamant that a named offficial agreed to the removal.

The difficulty however is not a legal one, but a question of academic ethics and conduct. All the data and correspondence with schools, local education authorities and teachers had been on Oxford Polytechnic headed notepaper, some of which was signed by Dr Hill. Before November 23 the recipients could not have known that information was being collected for the Parliamentary Video Group, even though Dr Hill was undoubtedly the research director of the overall project.

One is left with many questions that need to be answered. Why was no contract issued, and why did Oxford Polytechnic agree to become involved in a project without clarifying all the legal and financial issues? Why did the report not make a clearer distinction between the statistical evidence and the more impressionistic information used? Was it wise to create an extraordinarily tight timetable for the work? (The questionnaires were only sent out on October 12, and a draft report was available by November 9). Was it proper to remove the questionnaires and related materials from the research unit?

And, finally, is it a sufficiently accurate piece of research to frame the debate about the important issue of children and video nasties?

George Walden

Cultivation should begin at home

T.S. Eliot, the Treasury and the now defunct Think Tank have one thing in common: distrust of cultural diplomacy in general, and of the British Council in particular. Eliot cautiously approved of the council's post-war role of encouraging intellectual contacts, but was wary of state activity in culture in the long term. The Treasury, whose preoccupations are more pressing, seems to want to trim the council to bits. The Central Policy Review Staff wanted to abolish it outright.

Ministers will now be looking at the council's future pattern of spending yet again; its present level holds good only to April 1. In the process, all the old worries about the council's function and purpose will presumably resurface. Few bodies can have been reviewed and reassessed so much in so few years. As we reenter the cycle, it is a good moment to ask what it is all for – not just the council, but the reviews as well.

In six years there were three major inquiries. The CPRS had the first shot in 1977. This made the most waves, but accomplished the least. Ironically, Mrs Thatcher was more radical. When she took office in 1979 there was an immediate interdepartmental review, in which the Treasury was prominent and which sheared 18½ per cent off the council's core budget over four years. Only Sir Dick Troughton's personal brand of cultural diplomacy with the Prime Minister spared the council deeper misery. In yet a third overhaul, Lord Seebohm led a thorough management review in 1981, resulting in further efficiency measures.

The Treasury loves invisibles, but not intangibles. Hard and fast definitions of the council's work and raison d'être are not easy. One way to approach cultural diplomacy is to decide what it is not. It is definitely not a political arm of government, and has been remarkably successful (like the External Services of the BBC) in keeping out of controversy over the years, given the potential political overtones of some of its work.

It is not an export promotion agency either. The British Council has rightly been encouraged to sharpen its awareness of the commercial angles of its work. Its value to the book trade is obvious, and it now makes a good deal of money teaching English abroad. But the notion that the council should see itself primarily as a commercial front is both unrealistic and dangerous because it encourages the myth that promotion can substitute for production. You can teach a foreigner English and sensitize him to things British, but he will still buy American or German if it is cheaper and better.

Finally, for those whose hackles rise at the word, the council has less to do with culture, narrowly defined, than people think. Only 12 per cent of its core budget goes on concerts, exhibitions, films and the like. What it does do is a good deal of worthy, if rather humdrum work. It teaches English to a lot of foreigners, against payment in richer countries, free in poorer places. It teaches teachers as well and handles a vast number (about 30,000) of student and academic exchanges.

What sort of image should we be projecting, and where should we concentrate our effort in the Third World, or in our new political base in Europe? There is scope for endless argument about the right balance, some of it fruitful, some less so.

A lot of this debate can be debilitating. There comes a point when you have to ask yourself whether you are going to stay in the cultural diplomacy business at all. If we are, we should install sound management, limit the budget to what we can afford, and let the council get on with it. We have done the first two, but not the last.

The extraordinary diversion of ministerial effort which can go into fiddling with the image of Britain, rather than dealing with the substance, is something that has to be seen to be believed. I am as keen on financial rigour in the council as elsewhere, and believe that most of the savings made were necessary. But I would brandish my knife most menacingly and persistently over big budgets that are getting bigger than over small ones that are growing smaller.

There is an even more fundamental reason for some sense of proportion. Judith Hart, the former Labour Minister for Overseas Development, inadvertently highlighted it when she once lamented the financial restrictions on the encouragement of the study of Shakespeare in Guinea-Bissau. Hers were warm and worthy sentiments. But governments (and especially that of Dame Judith) could have spent their time more profitably ensuring that someone is still reading Shakespeare in Britain in 10 years' time; or even perhaps by rereading Eliot's own sombre prognosis of decline in cultural and educational standards.

That way there will still be something for the British Council to export. Literacy is good for business too. Culture, in fact, is rather like cars: exports do best when the domestic market prospers.

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THE MARRIAGE BOND

The Church of England's search for a satisfactory response to the phenomenon of widespread divorce in our society has reached the kind of critical point which demands great caution. How the church handles those whose marriages have been dissolved and who ask for a religious service the second time round stands as a public symbol of Christian teaching on marriage, and so there is much more to the issue than meeting the religious needs of the relatively few individuals for whom a second marriage in church may be of spiritual benefit. The church, under the leadership of the General Synod, has hitherto been heading towards a solution which would let those needs prevail over the conflicting priority: to uphold through thick and thin the doctrine that marriage is for life. But the particular procedures proposed by the synod for identifying worthy cases have been overwhelmingly rejected by the church at large, and the synod is meeting next week to pick up the pieces as best it can.

The rejected procedure – called Option G because it was once seventh on a list of possibilities being considered – emerged from careful debate, with the eventual support of two thirds of the synod's membership, after all sorts of variations of substance and of detail had been discussed and turned down. It authorized remarriage in church of some whose previous marriage had been dissolved, laying down procedures to identify those cases where this would be appropriate. The proposal now coming forward, which might be called the Bishop's Option because it comes from that House and because episcopal discretion is its fundamental principle, has many elements which the synod did not want to incorporate into Option G. That alone is reason for hesitation. What seemed a bad idea a year ago is put forward as a good idea now. In fact Option G was a pretty fair attempt of which the synod need not be ashamed, and its rejection indicates that what the church has been trying to achieve is in fact unobtainable. The Bishops' Option, when thoroughly tested in debate, will be found to fall even further off the mark: indeed the synod may remember that it said almost as much last year, in shaping Option G.

The bishops will tell the synod that their consultations with the clergy disclosed, along with widespread dislike of Option G, widespread support for the principle that a second marriage in church ought to be available in certain cases. That is their mandate for their new method. It is a questionable mandate. The clergy's response requires more sensitive interpretation than that, for what is most striking about opinion in the church is that no common mind exists on what those special circumstances might be, nor even on what theory should be applied to devise general ground-rules. And that fact may stand for something deeper still: it could be the inarticulate voice of Christian conscience hinting that the church should not head in this direction at all.

Important changes in doctrine and practice of this kind are inadvisable unless there is a clear and coherent theological basis for them, and unless there is general consent to this basis. That cannot be said. In the Church of England there are many theologies of marriage, and many theological explanations of what divorce and remarriage entails, and none is dominant. What is virtually universal is the belief that Christian marriage ought of its nature to be lifelong. The reasons for wanting to remarry people who have been divorced are usually called "pastoral", meaning a sense of spiritual responsibility for those who have experienced failure in married life. So option G was "pastoral" in emphasis, with some theological dressing.

It was not surprising that the synod went down that road. Members were told, in effect, that a way could be devised by means of which they could have their cake and eat it, to be pastoral to sad cases while also upholding the Christian ideal of permanence. Any group would be likely to grasp at such an attractive proposition, not at that stage knowing that they were asking for too much. The church ought now to address the basic issue once more, with its new wisdom learnt in the experience of first writing, and then tearing up, Option G, and frankly admitting that there is not some Option H or I or J waiting to be discovered which would do the trick after all.

Within a discipline which rationed church marriage to one per lifetime, so to speak, there is unexplored scope for more pastorally sensitive treatment of those who seek the church's spiritual help but cannot be accommodated within the discipline.

Any clergyman who feels he ought in conscience to perform a church wedding in these circumstances is already free to do so under the law of the land, though hitherto he has been discouraged by the church's own declarations. Recent developments will have diminished the force of these. More clergy will avail themselves of this right if the church's own discipline is not relaxed. That the church can live with. But it would do better by being more precise about the real spiritual needs of a couple at this moment in their lives. They do not ask the church to condone or condemn their relationship, but to provide an appropriate setting in which they can pray and be prayed for, with family and friends, with formality and dignity, leaving judgment to God. This is not quite the same as the already widespread practice of holding so-called "services of blessing" after a registry office marriage – an ad hoc and unofficial rite tainted with ambiguity and a suspicion of hypocrisy as if the church was willing to confirm a marriage it had been unwilling to administer. Instead of this there should be a standard form, without ambiguity of title or content, of the same quality as the rest of the church's public services, and explicitly distanced from the marriage service, designed solely to help the couple to be together in the presence of God. That is all they really need if their desire for the church's ministry is genuine. This is the sort of generous ministry the church can supply while retaining the integrity of its doctrinal position. Those who are divorced may even prefer it to a church wedding, finding it more closely aligned to their true situation and therefore more truly pastoral.

Having done its best and failed, for honourable reasons, to find the means to contain conflicting priorities, the Church of England can return with renewed self-confidence to its traditional witness to the Christian ideal, and who can doubt that that is a witness society – in the midst of the present divorce epidemic – needs to hear? It was a tradition the synod hoped would somehow stay alive in spite of the operation of Option G, a doubtful proposition; it is a tradition which would be even more gravely threatened by the Bishops' Option; it is the true Anglican tradition, and well-intentioned efforts to dilute it can now be abandoned with a good conscience.

VOTARIES OF SCIENCE

Fellows of the Royal Society meet on Wednesday for a postmortem on the election last year of Mrs Margaret Thatcher as an FRS. Forty fellows have requisitioned the meeting and will put forward an amendment to the statute under which Mrs Thatcher was elected. The statute declares a procedure, which is distinct from that by which fellows are ordinarily elected, for the election of persons who "either have rendered conspicuous service to the cause of science, or are such that their election would be of signal benefit to the Society". They may be enrolled at the rate of one a year, and there are generally a dozen or so at any given time.

Under that rule for special election, which came in at the beginning of the century, the only prime ministers not to be elected before 1940 were Campbell-Bannerman, who died early, and Lloyd George, a dubious quantity when it comes to honours. Fortunes have been more mixed since the war. Churchill, Attlee, Macmillan, Wilson and Thatcher have been singled out. Eden, Home, Heath and Callaghan have not, yet, been admitted to the temple of science – perhaps you have to last for more than one Parliament.

The critics would like both the procedure and the criteria contained in the statute to be redrawn, so as to insist upon some identifiable contribution to science, though it need not be as a practitioner of any branch of it. A second in chemistry at Somerville is a creditable achievement, but it does not in the ordinary way carry with it an FRS. The citation the society concocted for Mrs Thatcher's candidacy went on to speak of her continued interest in science through her legal and political careers adding that "as secretary of state for education and science and as prime minister she has done much to strengthen the cause of science in the United Kingdom". It is that on which the dissenting fellows choked as they looked around them at the condition of university laboratories and publicly funded research programmes after five years of Thatcher discipline. They felt as dairymen might have felt had Mrs Thatcher been made honorary president of the Milk Marketing Board when she stepped down from the ministry of education.

Whatever the Royal Society eventually decides to do about these special elections – and the council concedes that the time has come round again for a general revision of statutes – it should not be too puritanical about the admission of lay eminence. The society was founded in 1662, in descent from Robert Boyle's "invisible academy" of natural philosophers. From the word go the well-disposed and well-connected outnumbered by about two to one the men of science proper. Sir Joseph Banks, the longest serving and one of the greatest presidents, counselled the inclusion of those whom, from their position in society or their fortune, it might be desirable to retain as patrons of science.

A mood of reform seized the society in the second quarter of the nineteenth century resembling the contemporary Evangelical assault on the ease and amplitude of the Established Church. Zeal and high seriousness took over. The society was held to be too little occupied in the advancement of science. There were too many dilettanti, too many non-playing members. A comprehensive revision of statutes was achieved in 1847 including changes in the method of election. This was quickly followed by the transformation of the Royal Society into the scientific institution of preeminence that it has remained. Even so, special provision was made for the election, without scientific qualification, of princes, peers and privy councillors. The society was still mindful of the advantages of its informal establishment.

In spite of all the social changes these advantages remain, and the Royal Society may as well continue to enjoy them; and anyway some traces of establishment are appropriate in view of the public functions the society performs. It could adopt the device of honorary fellowships but that is not quite the same thing. Its tradition has been to recruit from among the rich and powerful on the basis of equality. A body of scientists that has swallowed in its day the first Lord Iveagh, Sir Otto Beit, Lord Nuffield, J. D. Rockefeller, Eamon de Valera, Emperor Hirohito and a long line of native statesmen unknown for their familiarity with the map of science, need not be too squeamish at this stage of its life.

Its mistake has been to dress up a conference speech on the white heat of the technological revolution or a chemistry degree followed by a spell in the education department as if they qualified a person for reception as a votary of science. Let such men and women be recognized for what they are: eminent, powerful, good to have on one's side.

Courts' circular

From Mr David Roberts

Sir, It is good to note (report, February 14) that the Home Secretary is issuing a circular to courts commending proposals to reduce delays. May I draw attention to a source of serious delay in trials which his department appears unwilling to remove.

Visits to prisoners on remand in local prisons by barristers and solicitors have, on occasion and for good reason, taken place during evenings and at weekends.

This necessary facility, operating to my knowledge for over 20 years, has recently been stopped at Horfield Prison, Bristol. Payment for staff involved was not specifically authorised and the Home Office refuses to grant authority.

This ban is already delaying trials in the crown court and its cumulative effect will be, not only to neutralize Lord Justice Watkins's reforms, but will cause very serious delay.

Another and significant consequence is that defendants are being denied access to counsel of their choice and are having to accept counsel who are available to visit the prison during normal hours. Urgent action is required.

Yours truly,
DAVID ROBERTS, President.
Bristol Law Society,
The Law Library,
The Guildhall,
Broad Street, Bristol.
February 17.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keeping political balance in EEC

From Mr Geoffrey Harris

Sir, Your report from Strasbourg (February 16) states that it was Lord Carrington who suggested that having a Labour member of the European Commission was necessary in order to overcome Labour hostility to the European Community. This is surely somewhat misleading.

The fact is that all the countries with more than one commissioner have for some years respected the necessity for political balance in these appointments, and since the functions of the Commission are highly and primarily political the choice of a businessman would be a political choice.

To disguise such a choice on the grounds that the person was not just a close associate of the Prime Minister but had a lot of managerial experience would be quite unconvincing.

There is, moreover, no evidence that other countries plan to abandon the tradition of keeping political balance, which has enabled people like Claude Cheysson and Roy Jenkins to play a major political role, even when their parties were not in power.

For many years the role of the Commission has been weakened, and instead of acting as a motive force for effective decision-making the Commission has been evolved into a somewhat weak secretariat of the Council and has lost any semblance of a clear political profile.

Coupled with the obsessive and sometimes self-destructive use of the veto in the Council (e.g., Esprit – the European Strategic Programme for Research and Development in Information Technologies), this had led to an almost total paralysis in the Community's key institutions. The European Parliament has only been doing its duty in pointing this out, issuing warnings about the consequences and making proposals for reform.

The problem of appointing commissioners is not in fact Mrs Thatcher's real problem. The problem is what it has been for some time, the absence of any clear aims or strategy for the development of the Community and deep divisions within the Conservative Party on the whole issue.

The possible break-up of the European Conservative Group and the remarkable three-way split in the historic vote on Parliament's proposal for a new treaty are only the visible signs of what is clearly a deep and intractable problem for the British Conservatives. Similar differences are apparent in the House of Commons in EEC debates.

To try now to sabotage the attempts of the Labour Party to develop a new and constructive policy towards the EEC by removing the Labour commissioner would therefore be an extraordinary case of abuse of power. It is hard also to see how it could be in the interests of Britain or the Community.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFF HARRIS,
Socialist Group Secretariat,
European Parliament,
97-113 rue Belliard,
1040 Brussels,
Belgium.
February 17.

Implications of training scheme cuts

From Lady Faithfull

Sir, The Government's current reductions in the part of the Youth Training Scheme known as mode B1 are both damaging and premature.

Under this scheme voluntary organisations provide training workshops and training places in community projects. These seek to offer training and work experience to those 16-year-olds who have failed at school, who have few basic skills and experience attitudes of resentment and hostility to the adult world. They do not fit into employer-run mode A schemes and indeed employers are unable to absorb these young people.

If these 16-year-olds are to succeed on the Youth Training Scheme they need more specialised help and more adult time than employer-based schemes can normally provide. The recently announced cuts will damage the capacity of the scheme to cater adequately for such school-leavers by reducing the number of places which can give them special support and handling.

The Youth Training Scheme came into operation as recently as September. It is quite wrong at this early stage to impose such cuts rather than give sponsors the help and support they need in the task of establishing their schemes on a firm footing.

Yours faithfully,
LUCY FAITHFULL,
House of Lords.
February 22.

From Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP for Knowsley North (Labour)

Sir, By the damaging cuts which it has announced in community projects within the Youth Training Scheme the Government is seriously undermining its own declared crime-reduction policies.

Home Office ministers have repeatedly stressed the importance they attach to crime prevention, yet employment ministers are now simultaneously cutting schemes whose value in diverting young people from crime has been clearly shown.

Not only is this a recipe for disaster in youth training, it is also the opposite of the co-ordinated approach to crime reduction which the Home Office declares it is so anxious to promote.

The parliamentary all-party Penal Affairs Group's recent report, "The Prevention of Crime Among Young People", reviewed evidence suggesting that unemployment is a contributory factor to some of the criminal activity of young people. The group concluded that the importance of the Manpower Services Commission's special employment programmes in providing opportunities for young people could not be overestimated and recommended that "there should be a continuing expansion of opportunities on the Manpower Services Commission's special employment programmes".

If, on the contrary, some YTS projects are closed and others asked to accept a reduction in their number of approved places, this will constitute a serious blow to all those working to help vulnerable young people lead satisfying lives and steer them away from crime.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT KILROY-SILK,
(Chairman, Parliamentary Penal Affairs Group),
House of Commons.
February 17.

Countryside heritage

From Lieutenant-Commander G. G. Marten

Sir, The renewed correspondence about conservation is strong in condemnation of landowners and farmers but weak on effective remedy. Landowners certainly have a duty to conserve and care for their holdings, but they also have a duty to their families, employees and dependants to keep their individual estates afloat.

There is an intense but artificial conflict of interests here. The cause is capital taxation. Few, if any, of the critics are aware of the subtle undertow dragging landowners down and with them the quality of land and landscape.

Take for example an oak wood. Its life spans four or five generations of family ownership. At each successive owner's death capital transfer tax must be paid on the value of the land on which the trees stand at a rate related to the whole of the deceased's estate.

In addition, when the trees are finally cut down, tax must be paid on the sale price at a rate related to the previous death. This multiplication of tax liabilities makes growing oak trees a more certain method of losing money than a lifetime of backing slow horses.

Recent Labour governments first doubled the impact of capital taxation on agricultural land and then turned the screw on every aspect of land ownership. We are now reaping their whirlwind, not just in despoliation of the countryside but in the dispersal of treasures, the flight of capital, and the decay of country houses, large and small.

Faced with a ruthless tax based, not on the value of the land as we should like to see it, nor even on the land as it is, but on its maximum potential productive capacity, farmers and landowners often have little alternative but to pursue ruthless methods. Whole lifetimes may be spent crippled by tax arising from their fathers' death and in preparation for their own. In these circumstances every acre has to yield up its tribute to the state.

It is a system generated in spite and now rooted in inertia, deeply damaging to countrymen and the countryside. Planning control would not remove the conflict. Rating of agricultural land would exacerbate it.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MARTEN,
Crichel,
Wimborne, Dorset.
February 17.

Thoughts on lorries

From Brigadier N. H. L. Chesshyre

Sir, The current unrest in France underlines the dangers for Britain of a Channel tunnel. Once a tunnel was in being cross-Channel ferry routes, including those to Belgium and Holland, would inevitably wither down to a fraction of their present capacity.

The French government would then hold a trump card for use in the unhappy event of a serious quarrel with Britain and even a local strike at the French end of a tunnel would be equally damaging.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE CHESSHYRE,
5 Willifield Way, NW11.
February 23.

Severn crossing

From Dr J. M. V. Rayner

Sir, Mr A. T. MacMillan's comment (February 17) that by providing a second road crossing a Severn barrage would "kill two birds with one stone" is most distressingly apt.

Until it is clear that a tidal barrage represents no risk to the important populations of wading birds and waterfowl in the upper estuary of the Severn, and indeed to all the wildlife of the river, plans to construct such a barrage can only represent a major environmental threat.

The short-term benefits of energy production and relief for the Severn bridge cannot excuse the large-scale environmental destruction which could ensue.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY RAYNER,
University of Bristol,
Department of Zoology,
Woodland Road,
Bristol.
February 17.

Saving suit of armour

From the Master of the Armouries, Tower of London

Sir, In the report on the saving of the Earl of Southampton's armour in Saturday's *Times* (February 18) it was stated that I had said that the Tower would be making the owner "an offer he can not refuse". This is in fact the opposite to what I said, because, as is well known, the owner of any object the export of which has been stopped is at liberty to refuse an offer by a museum in this country so long as the object is kept in Britain.

Your truly,
VESEY NORMAN,
Master of the Armouries,
HM Tower of London, EC3.
February 23.

Equality at school

From Mrs Marjorie Seldon

Sir, The SDP is ambivalent in its support to parents paying for independent schools and one reason may be, as Anne Sofer bluntly remarks (feature, February 13) "6 per cent ... hardly a huge constituency for any party".

Her view of state education is also unambiguous: "So far from the middle classes having no stake in the state system they are, on the contrary, its supporters and chief beneficiaries."

Professor Thomas Sowell, the distinguished black American economist, recently identified those parents who are pulling their children out of bad state schools as being more who earn from $5,000 to $10,000 a year than *all* who earn above $25,000.

Eighty-three per cent of all children from the wealthiest families are enrolled in state schools in the good residential areas. He would recognise the situation in Solihull, where plans for a grammar school ran into opposition from the beneficiaries of a good state comprehensive – the middle classes, as noted by Anne Sofer.

How to give all classes equal opportunities in state schooling is the intractable problem posed by Anne Sofer. It has a name – monopoly. All but 6 per cent of children are locked into schools from which they cannot escape. At least a third, probably more, children leave their unsatisfactory schools ill-fitted for the jobs which are available and will increasingly become available in burgeoning new industries as well as viable old ones.

Most countries face similar problems but Britain and North America have the greatest urgency to solve them. President Reagan is to make a start by the introduction of a modest tax credit Bill to Congress.

Yours truly,
MARJORIE SELDON,
The Thatched Cottage,
Godden Green,
Near Sevenoaks, Kent.

Off the track

From Mr Hugh Lee

Sir, The term Sir David Hunt (February 11) deplores the modern use of comes from motor and motorcycle racing, not horseracing. It used to mean the fastest time for a single circuit of the racing track – a "track", or often "lap", record. ("Lap", too, is now misused).

Strictly, a "track record" related to true racing tracks such as Brooklands and Indianapolis, not to "road circuits".

Yours truly,
HUGH LEE,
83 The Vineyard,
Richmond, Surrey.

Polish at Arnhem

From Mr Richard Lamb

Sir, In my recently published book, *Montgomery in Europe*, I quoted a signal from Field Marshal Montgomery to the then CIGS (Chief of the Imperial General Staff), Viscount Alanbrooke, about the conduct of the Polish Parachute Brigade during the Arnhem operation in September, 1944. This signal which had not previously been used in any history of the campaign, was highly derogatory to the Polish troops and I wrote that it was a "harsh judgment" and that Montgomery was seeking a "scapegoat" for the failure of the Arnhem operation.

Would you be good enough to allow me to put the record straight in your correspondence columns? The signal, dated October 17, 1944, reads:

Polish Para Bde fought very badly here and the men showed no keenness to fight if it meant risking their own lives. I do not want this Bde here again and possibly you may like to send them to join other Poles in Italy.

Colonel Antoni Rawicz-Szczerbo, the last commanding officer of 1st Polish Parachute Brigade, has written to me that this signal was "a scathing condemnation of brave men who gave their lives in the common cause" and that many Polish paratroopers lie next to their British comrades in arms in the cemetery at Oosterbeck while other brave Polish soldiers had their graves in the waters of the Rhine, where they perished in their efforts to help the British.

The Colonel has also sent me a letter written on January 11 this year from General R. E. Urquhart, CB, DSO, who commanded 1st British Airborne Division at Arnhem, confirming the bravery of the Polish paratroopers who crossed to the northern bank of the Rhine to help his division, and stating that without their help he could not have held the perimeter for as long, and that if they had not fought so well "an organised withdrawal" of 1st Airborne from the north bank to the south bank of the Rhine "would not have been possible."

I have examined most of the archives relating to the Polish Parachute Brigade's performance in September, 1944, and I have not found a scrap of evidence to support Montgomery's view. Nor have any of the numerous British survivors to whom I have talked mentioned any such thing.

In my opinion Field Marshal Montgomery's condemnation of the Poles' courage was an outrageous judgment made without evidence at a time when he was seeking excuses for the disastrous failure of his Arnhem operation.

Yours truly,
RICHARD LAMB,
Knighton Manor,
Broadchalke,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Fears from the hereafter

From Canon G. B. Bentley

Sir, Bishop Huddleston's letter (February 22) strikes me as alarming and not a little sinister. When the time comes for me to depart this life I want my body to be allowed to die, not to have bits of it kept alive in the innards of strangers whose guts I might hate, if I knew them. I do not want to run the risk of such bits being made accessory to actions of which I could not approve, perhaps even to grave crimes.

I do not want my deathbed to be surrounded by a flock of surgical vultures, each waiting impatiently to peck out the morsel he fancies. Nor do I want my body to be kept ticking over after my death to facilitate its cannibalization. Am I alone in this?

The sinister thing is the Bishop's insistence that Big Brother should arrogate to himself authority to conscript our vital organs and confer on surgeons "the automatic right" to cannibalize anybody's body "unless he has registered an objection in his lifetime". This is no invasion of human rights, he maintains, since an objector can opt out.

But conscription *is* a "deprivation of rights", despite allowance for conscientious objection and only tolerable in a national emergency. Moreover, surgeons admit that they do not always become aware of the wishes of the dead person before the removal of organs has taken place.

The Bishop supports his argument by a novel interpretation of the right to life. According to him it includes a right to other peoples' kidneys when needed, which in its turn imposes an obligation on the other people to make them available. That is tantamount to saying, "I give you a new commandment"!

I wonder how he would revise the committal at a burial? "We commit what remains of his body to the ground"? Should there not also be a prayer that the bits of it still living may enjoy a long life and a happy one?

I do think that in this matter the Bishop's deeply compassionate heart has got the better of his head and his sense of distributive justice.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. BENTLEY,
College of St George,
5 The Cloisters,
Windsor Castle,
Berkshire.
February 23.

No end of trouble

From Lord O'Neill of the Maine

Sir, This week I was sad to see the reports of shootings and deaths at Dunloy, co Antrim – described in many reports as an extreme republican area.

This little Catholic village holds happy memories for me. In my last election in February, 1969, I was engaged in a house-to-house canvass in the area – unheard of previously for any person in my position – when I was told that a large gathering was awaiting me at the crossroads in the centre of the village.

I had with me a small loudspeaker van and, as they wanted me to address them, I fought my way through the crowds to this van. There, surrounded by waving Union Jacks, I spoke to this cheering Catholic crowd. Nor can I forget that this demonstration was incredible because only the week before the Government had closed their only local industry, an abattoir.

Had extremists not succeeded in polarizing opinion, perhaps beyond repair, over 2,000 people who are now dead might be alive today and many more incurably wounded would today be hale and hearty.

Those who believe that there is a foreseeable solution to these "troubles" are either ignorant of the facts or merely "hoping for the best".

Yours sincerely,
TERENCE O'NEILL,
House of Lords.
February 23.

Neighbourhood watch

From the Rev D. S. R. Redman

Sir, The letter from Mr Miles Hardie (February 20) calling for a wider application of Neighbourhood Watch from crime to health and social welfare, deserves considerable support and exploration.

The churches have already done much work at local levels in setting up community help schemes enabling people to help themselves and to facilitate the better use of state and voluntary agencies. One such scheme in a village in Kent has a successful 10-year record whilst in my own commuter community a new scheme is enthusiastically being organized.

This enthusiasm is matched by a very "luke warm" response by the residents to the proposals from Neighbourhood Watch on its own.

There is much good will and untapped local expertise which can be harnessed and used for the benefit of the community and at the same time providing a healthy partnership between people and the state, which sadly in our time have developed two identities.

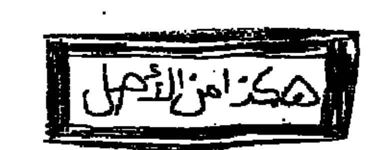
Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS REDMAN,
The Vicarage,
37 Kingswood Road,
Shortlands,
Bromley,
Kent.
February 20.

Farewell to arms

From Mr D. W. Plamping

Sir, I suppose finding a peaceful use for gun carriages (letter, February 22) is a bit like beating swords into ploughshares.

Yours faithfully,
D. W. PLAMPING,
7 Grove Gardens,
Teddington,
Middlesex.
February 22.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 24: His Excellency Monsieur Jean-Paul van Bellinghen was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Belgium.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsieur Nestor Cockx (Minister Plenipotentiary), Captain Herman Stradiot (Military, Naval and Air Attaché), Monsieur Bernard Lauwaert (Minister-Counsellor [Economic]), Monsieur Jan Grauls (Counsellor [Political]), Monsieur Claude Rijmenans (2nd Secretary [Economic]), Monsieur Pierre Vaesen (2nd Secretary [Political]), Monsieur André Querton (Attaché [Economic]) and Monsieur Lucien De Wulf (Attaché [Consular]).

Madame van Bellinghen had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Antony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Monsieur Matungulu N'Kuman Tavun and Madame Matungulu were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Zaire to the Court of St James's.

Mr Justice Hutchison had the honour of being received by The Queen on his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Justice when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood.

The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia visited The Queen and remained to luncheon.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present.

The following had the honour of being invited: His Excellency Dr Ghazi Al Gosaibi (Minister of Health), His Excellency Mohammed Ibrahim Al Masoud (Minister of State), His Excellency Abdul Aziz Tuwaijiri (Deputy Commander of the National Guard), His Excellency the Saudi Arabian Ambassador, the Lord and Lady Carrington, General Sir John and Lady Stanier, Admiral Sir James and Lady Eberle and Sir James Craig.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Church Fenton in the Royal Train this morning and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for North Yorkshire (the Marquess of Normanby).

His Royal Highness drove to John Smith's Tadcaster Brewery Ltd and, escorted by the Chairman of John Smith's (Mr J. W. Whitworth), toured the Brewery.

The Duke of Edinburgh subsequently visited Killingbeck Hospital, Leeds and, having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Yorkshire (Sir William Bulmer), His Royal Highness named the Mountbatten Non-invasive Heart Unit, opened the Unit's new extension, and was entertained at luncheon.

This afternoon the Duke of Edinburgh toured the factory of Rose Forgrove Ltd (Chairman, Mr W. A. Brown).

His Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Lord Mayor of Leeds (Councillor M. Dodgson).

The Duke of Edinburgh later visited Lucas Aerospace, Electrical Division, at Bedford and was received by the Lord Mayor of Bradford (Councillor N. Free).

His Royal Highness opened and toured the factory, escorted by the Chief Executive of Lucas Aerospace Ltd. (Mr G. Moore) and the Director and General Manager (Dr A. Watkins).

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended the Variety Club of Great Britain's "Woman of the Year" dinner at the Queen's Hotel, Leeds and was received by the Chief Barker of the Variety Club (Mr Norman Garrod) and the Chairman of the Leeds Committee (Mr Bobbie Caplin).

Major the Hon Andrew Wigram was in attendance.

By command of the Queen, the Lord Lucas of Chilworth (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the departure of The President of Italian Republic and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

A memorial service for Hereward Wake will be held in the Chapel of St John's School, Leatherhead, on Saturday, March 24, at noon. There will be a buffet luncheon after the service, tickets for which may be obtained from the Recorder at the school.

Sweet illusion of the good old faith

The late John Robinson was a fine theologian and a man of remarkable integrity. He knew that the circumstances of the present age demand a wholesale reassessment of the Christian faith.

If there ever was a time when the good old belief in an infallible Bible or in a set of unchangeable dogmas untouched by time held good, it is certainly not now.

In fact, it could be shown that the picture of everybody understanding the Bible simply and literally and believing in a system of cut-and-dried doctrine unaltered since the beginning is a sweet illusion, like the sweet illusion of an eternally relevant *Authorized Version* or *Book of Common Prayer*.

Religion, like everything else under the moon, continually changes, continually requires to be adjusted, reexamined, reformed, interpreted anew as it is "by chance and nature's changing course untrimmed". In periods of slow change, this necessity is felt more gradually: in periods of rapid change, like ours, the necessity is more obvious and pressing. But religion never stands still.

The entirely new perspectives forced upon any thinking Christian by the arrival of biblical criticism (no new phenomenon, for it has been with us now for well over a century), and the revolutions of thought brought about by the Renaissance, the Enlightenment and the rise of science have made a new estimate of the Christian faith an imperative necessity.

John Robinson understood that well, and with that task he continually wrestled, most notably in his *Honest to God*, but also in most of his other works.

The other point which John Robinson understood very well was that the need for the reexamination of Christianity does not necessarily entail an abandonment of the great truths enshrined in the Christian tradition, nor of the essential and central place of the Bible in Christian thought and doctrine. He was not a radical theologian in the sense of wishing to abandon the doctrines for instance, of the Trinity, of the Incarnation, or the Atonement. He wanted us to rethink them, and here he was entirely justified, but he did not wish to jettison them.

Perhaps the best memorial which any individual can erect to Bishop Robinson is to resolve to take up the task of understanding the Christian faith and of interpreting it in a new perspective, with an altered emphasis, to the society in which he lives. It is manifest, for instance, that the old doctrine of original sin cannot be perpetuated once we have ceased to believe that the first three chapters of Genesis give us an historically reliable account of the origin of mankind.

Many would regard it as our plain duty (though here John Robinson was an interesting exception) to frame our belief in the Incarnation so as to take account of the fact that St John's Gospel in the greater part of its record of what Jesus said is not giving us his actual words or teaching, but is interpreting his significance by means of discourses written in his name.

It is almost an axiom today that belief in the existence of God does not arise by irresistible logic either from a philosophical or a scientific investigation of the world, but must be achieved in a more complex and perhaps more profound manner.

Where that leaves us as far as certainty in belief is concerned and what the ordinary clergy can do about that situation are matters which perhaps can be considered later. Enough for the moment to say that Bishop John Robinson, if he has done nothing else, has left us a noble example of the kind of activity in which thoughtful Christians today ought to engage. It is the task of determining what is worth believing and what is not, and why we believe in the faith which we hold.

Richard Hanson
Professor of theology, Manchester University

Science report

Japan revises space plans to suit US

Tokyo (Asahi News Service) – The Japanese Government has agreed to revise its plans for the country's modest space programme. The new projects avoid any further conflict with the United States in the field of advanced technology.

The idea is to concentrate on a launch vehicle and on satellite applications for Japan – domestic television broadcasting, commercial communications, meteorology, ocean and land resources exploration, and astronomy.

Japan will seek involvement with the United States in the American space station programme for the wider use and exploration of space. The revised programme consists of three main targets:

- The development of launch vehicle H-II, which will be capable of placing a two-ton satellite into geostationary orbit by 1991.
- The launch of about fifty satellites in the next 15 years on vehicles leased from other countries and on Japan's own small rockets.
- Collaboration in the space station.

An agreement on space cooperation was signed between the US and Japan in 1969, but it retains decision-making in the hands of the US and restricts collaboration with other countries.

Development of the H-II launch vehicle would enable Japan to launch communications satellites for South-east Asian countries. That would place Japan in competition with the US space shuttle and the European Space Agency's Ariane rocket.

The plan for the H-II vehicle is an extension of the H-I rocket being developed to place a 550kg satellite in orbit by 1987.

The present workhorse of the Japanese space effort is the N-II rocket, capable of launching a communications satellite of 350kg.

Last month a broadcasting spacecraft named YURI-2A was carried aloft by a N-II. Although about two-thirds of the components were made in Japan, control of the main systems was kept by US engineers.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. J. Bass and Miss K. L. Tomlinson
The engagement is announced between Robin son of Mr. and Mrs J. Bass, of King's Langley, Hertfordshire, and Kathryn, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. Tomlinson of Derby, Derbyshire.

Mr P. J. Diggle and Dr J. M. Brown
The engagement is announced between Peter James, elder son of the late Mr J. I. Diggle and of Mrs M. Diggle, of Bury, and Judith Margaret, daughter of the late Rev W. G. Brown and of Mrs J. M. Brown, of Putney.

Mr M. A. Ives and Miss D. C. Gibson
The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. G. Ives, of Mulberry Cottage, Barrow Lane, Langton Green, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and Deborah, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Gibson, of Aldburgh Hall, Masham, Ripon, North Yorkshire.

Mr D. G. D. Metson and Miss D. R. Brook
The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of the late Major J. A. Metson and Mrs Metson, of Brook End, Little Dunmow, Essex, and Diana, youngest daughter of the late Mr H. W. Brook, of Rotherham, South Yorkshire, and Mrs A. M. Brook, now living in Poole, Dorset.

Mr E. P. W. Slater and Miss A. S. Farn
The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of Mrs D. E. Slater, of Lichfield, Staffordshire, and Allison, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. R. Farn, of Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr H. W. R. Stewart and Miss S. E. Brooks
The engagement is announced between Hugh Williams Ryan, eldest son of Captain John S. Stewart, RM (Retd) and Mrs Stewart, of The Mill House, Olney, Buckinghamshire, and Suzanne Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr C. R. Brooks, of Tywardreath, Cornwall, and Mrs R. J. Brooks, of Througham Slad Manor, Bisley, Gloucestershire.

Mr R. G. Weedon and Miss M. A. Hart
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Weedon, of Tetbury, Gloucestershire, and Hongkong, and Mary-Ann, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. A. W. Hart, of Tonbridge, Kent, and Bombay.

Captain R. L. Willett, RE, and Miss R. E. Mc Connell
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs P. J. Willett, of Ashburton, Devon and Rona, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs H. R. McConnell, of Bearsden, Glasgow.

Mr D. G. M. Wilson and Miss M. E. Senior
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Colonel and Mrs J. B. Wilson, of Teston, Kent, and Margot Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr Harry Senior, of Bournemouth, and Mrs Esta Senior, of Wimbledon.



Help for victims' relatives: Chief Superintendent P. J. Ryan, of Chelsea Police Station (left), receiving a cheque for £1,000 from Chief Petty Officer Frank Walker on board HMS Bristol at Portsmouth yesterday. The money was raised among the crew and ashore for relatives of the Harrods bombing victims, who included WPC Jane Arbuthnot. Her father, Mr Jake Arbuthnot (right), is a retired lieutenant-commander.

Earl of Stockton, Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden

The Viscountcy and Earldom of the United Kingdom conferred upon Mr Harold Macmillan, OM, have been gazetted by the names, styles and titles of Viscount Macmillan of Ovenden, of Chelwood Gate, in the County of East Sussex, and of Stockton-on-Tees, in the County of Cleveland, and Earl of Stockton.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr John Arlott, 70; Mr Anthony Burgess, 67; Mr Tom Courtenay, 47; Sir Anthony Duff, 64; Mr Nicholas Edwards, MP, 50; Mr George Harrison, 41; Sir Alan Marre, 70; Lord Justice Parker, 61; the Right Rev Dr J. A. Ramsbotham, 78; Sir Henry T. Smith, 79; Sir Ian Wallace, 68; Air Marshal Sir Keith Williamson, 56.
TOMORROW: Lord Bridge of Hawick, 67; Mr Justice Farquharson, 56; Sir James Goldsmith, 51; Dr B. J. Greenhill, 64; Major Sir Derrick Gunston, 93; Captain John Noel, 94; Mr W. R. Price, 58; Mr E. D. Weekes, 59.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Sir Julian Bullard, aged 55, Deputy Under-Secretary of State (Europe) and Deputy to the Permanent Under-Secretary and Political Director, to be Ambassador to West Germany in succession to Sir John Taylor, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.
The Rev Michael Rees, aged 48, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Cambridge, to be the Church Army's chief secretary in succession to the Rev Michael Turnbull.
Mr Mark Francis, aged 31, former exhibitions organizer at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, to be director of the Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh.
Miss Margaret Matheson, controller of drama for Central Television, to be a member of the board of governors of the British Film Institute.
Mr Alan Marmion, aged 36, BBC consultant on direct broadcasting by satelite, to be head of general administration at the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

Dinners

Mrs L. Leifland
Prince Bertil and Princess Lilian of Sweden were guests of honour at a dinner given yesterday by the Swedish Ambassador and Mrs Leif Leifland at their residence, 27 Portland Place. Other guests included Lord Belstead, Mr Nicholas Scott, MP, and the Hon Mrs Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller, Lord and Lady Greenhill of Harrow, Professor Sir Andrew Huxley, OM, and Lady Huxley and Mr and Mrs Staffan Gadd.

Old Pauline Club
The annual dinner of the Old Pauline Club, during the commemoration of the 475th anniversary of the foundation of St Paul's School, was held at Mercers' Hall last night. The toast of the school was proposed by the president of the club, Mr Guy Thomas, to which the High Master, Mr J. Warwick Hele, replied. Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, vice-president of the Club, and Mr Alderman Michael Graham, Master of the Mercers' Company and chairman of the school governors, also spoke.

John Carpenter Club
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were present at the annual dinner of the John Carpenter Club (Old Citizen's Association) held at Mansion House last night. The president, Mr J. Gracey, was in the chair and other speakers were Mr P. Baker, Mr J. A. Boyes, Headmaster of the City of London School, Professor J. E. Flood and Dr L. M. Kramer.

Service dinners

3 Squadron HAC
The annual dinner of 3 Squadron HAC was held at Armoury House last night. The Squadron Commander, Major M. S. H. Ring, presided and the principal guest was Vice-Admiral Sir Ernle Pope. Mr P. D. C. Vyvyan-Robinson proposed the health of the guests and Brigadier R. S. Mountford replied.

Royal Engineers (Transportation)
The annual dinner of the Royal Engineers (Transportation) was held at the RE Headquarters Mess, Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

Pembroke Yeomanry
A reunion dinner of the Pembroke Yeomanry was held in the Officers' Mess, RAC Ranges, Castlemartin, last night on the occasion of the 187th anniversary of the surrender of the French invaders at Fishguard. Colonel W. P. Howells presided

RAF Hereford
Group Captain T. B. Sherrington and officers of RAF Hereford were hosts yesterday at a parade, reception and guest night to mark the end of catering training at RAF Hereford.

Memorial service

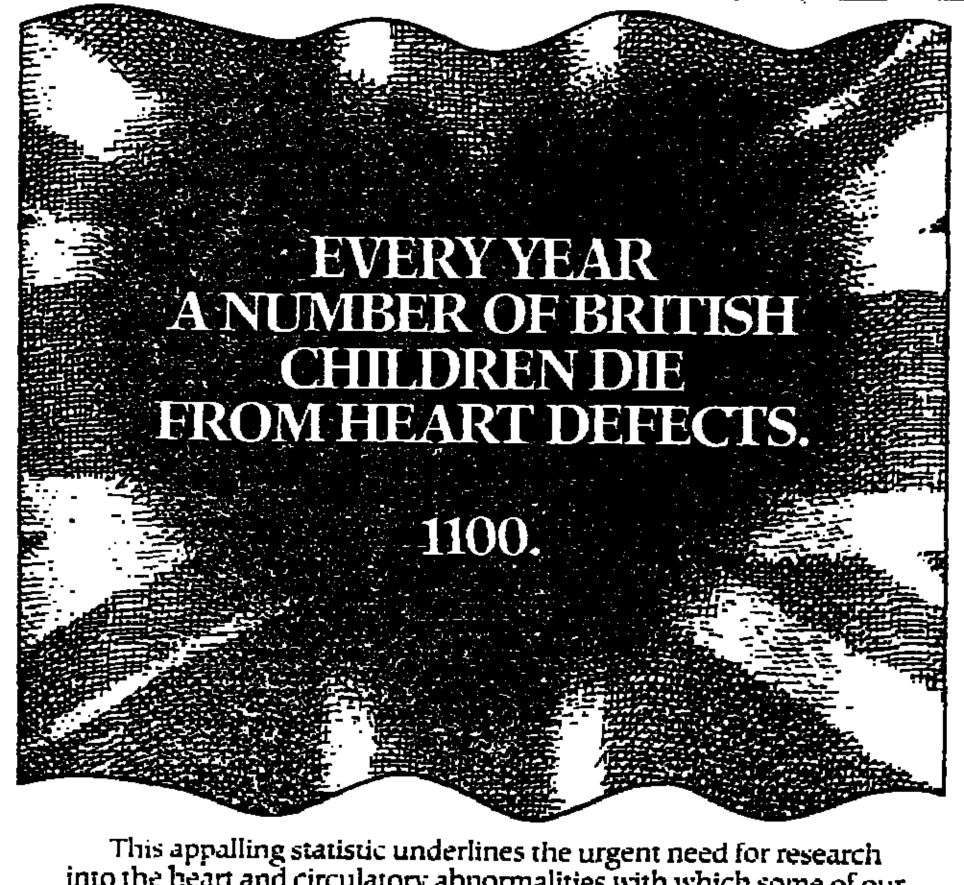
Mr R. Lewin
A memorial service for Mr Ronald Lewin was held at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, yesterday. The Rev Christopher Courtauld officiated, assisted by the Rev Roger Russell. Major Robin Lewin (son) read the lesson and Lieutenant General Sir Ian Jacob read from *Pilgrim's Progress*. The Rev Dr James Bentley gave an address. Among those present were:
Mrs Lewin (widow), Mr and Mrs Nicholas Lewin (son and daughter-in-law), Miss Rosemary Lewin (daughter), Mrs Robin Lewin (daughter-in-law), Sarah and Christopher Lewin (grandchildren), Mr and Mrs Peter Lewin (brother and sister-in-law), Mr David Lewin, Mrs A. Lewin, Mr and Mrs Philip Sturge (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr William Sturge, Mr and Mrs Peter Gillman, Mr Charles Brown, Mr and Mrs Roger Holdsworth, Mr and Mrs Raymond Sturge, Professor and Mrs Christopher Lloyd, Mr and Mrs Peter Sturge, Miss Margaret Woodward, Mr Colwyn Sturge, Miss Maida Sturge, Mrs F M Howe, Mr J R Edwards.
Lord Beloff, Field Marshal Lord and Lady Carver, Lady Joan Robertson, General Sir David Fraser, General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall, Vice-Admiral Sir Ian and Lady McGeoch, Lady Jacob, Sir Raymond and Lady Potter, Lady Liddell Hart, Sir Stuart and Lady Milner-Barry, Sir Edgar Williams, Lady (Richard) O'Connor, Mrs Enoch Powell, Mr Philip Howard (Literary Editor, The Times), Brigadier H B C Watkins (British Army Review), Rear-Admiral E F Gueritz, Mr Richard Usborne, Mr Leonard Miall, Lieutenant-Colonel J K MacFarlan, Professor and Mrs M R D Foot, Mr and Mrs Ralph Bennett, Group Captain D Bolton; the Rev Robin Denniston (Oxford University Press) with Mr Ivon Asquith; Mr Leo Cooper, Miss Nora Beloff, Canon R G Lunt, Colonel J D Watson, Dr Alan Borg, Mr and Mrs Corelli Barnett.
Miss Jill Balcon, Mr and Mrs Walter Bell, Dr and Mrs Noble Frankland, Miss Judy Hutchinson, the Rev Neil Handley, Lieutenant-Colonel B Montgomery, Dr and Mrs A Flood, Mr and Mrs Mervyn Blatch, Mr Alec Clifton-Taylor, Mr and Mrs R Saville, Mr David Irving, Miss Mollie Swift (representing London University Extension Association), Mr and Mrs Edward Thomas, Mr Andrew Best (Curtis Brown), Brigadier Shelford Bidwell, Mr and Mrs David Mure, Air Commodore and Mrs R A Mason, Mr Richard Seleman (Group Travel Services), Mr Harold Newby, Mr William Clark.
Mr Alec Dakin (Kingsley Book Shop, Bath), Dr G Di Vita, Mr and Mrs Iain Hamilton, Mr John Terraine, Mr K Fox, Mr and Mrs D Lisa, Mr John Sykes, Mr K T Harrison, Mr and Mrs Andrew Timothy, Mr and Mrs T O'Brien, Mr E R Thompson, Mr and Mrs E J Morgan, Mrs Patrick Synge, Mr and Mrs J G McCulloch, Mrs A Bentley, Dr and Mrs Hugh L'Etang, Mr Guy L'Etang, Mrs M C Manwaring, Mrs John Stephenson, Mr John Deeks, Mr R Soskin, Major R A Howard, and Mrs Jean Howard.

Services tomorrow: Sexagesima

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC, 8; M, 10.30, Jub, Service in Gamut (Byrd), TD, Setting in five parts (Tallis), Right Rev K Woollcombe; HC, 11.30, Darke in F, Int, O come, everyone that thirsteth (Mendelssohn); E, 3.15, Mag and Nunc dimittis, Ireland in F, A, O where shall Wisdom be found? (Boyce); Deaconess G Beck

... 11.30, the Vicar; Choral E 4.15; ES 6.30, Norman Ingram-Smith.
LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL (public invited, entry via Lincoln's Inn Gateway): Sung Eucharist, 11.30, Int, Rev F V A Boyse.
TOWER OF LONDON (public welcomed): HC, 9.15; m, 11, TD, Tallis (5-part), A, Like as the hart (Howells), the Chaplain.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC, 8.30; MP, 11.15, TD, Alcock in B Flat, Jub Deo, Sowerby in B flat, A, Splendente te (Mozart), the Reader; organ voluntary.
ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) ...

ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square: HC, 8.15; M, 11, Rev A G C Pearson; HC 6.30, Rev J A Mumford.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge: HC 8 and 9; Solemn Eucharist, 11, Rev R G Russell.
ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street: 11, Rev O Cassidy, HC, 6.30, Rev G Cassidy.
ST SIMON ZELOTES, Chelsea: HC, 8; MP, 11; EP, 6.30, Rev O R Clarke
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road: L LM 8, 9; HM 11, Service in D minor (Vaughn Williams), Rev G Morgan; E and Benediction ...



OBITUARY

THE REV DR SHERWIN BAILEY

Sexuality and Christian teaching

The Rev Dr Sherwin Bailey, who died on February 9 at the age of 73, was a former Chancellor and Precentor of Wells Cathedral, and had written a number of works on sexuality and marriage which had an influence on thinking in the Church of England in the postwar years.

Derrick Sherwin Bailey was born on June 30, 1910, and educated at Alcester Grammer School, in Warwickshire. After some years in insurance he was ordained a priest in 1943, and spent nine years as Anglican chaplain at Edinburgh University. From 1951 to 1959 he worked for the Church of England Moral Welfare Council.

During that time he published a series of books on the sexual aspects of moral theology, beginning with *The Mystery of Love and Marriage* in 1952. In 1955 he published *Homosexuality and the Western Christian Tradition*, a monograph in which he argued against many commonly held theories about the proper Christian attitude to the subject.

In general Bailey argued for the view that sexuality should be seen as something positively good; and in his writing on homosexuality he foreshadowed subsequent change in attitude to it, and in the law.

In 1962 he became a Canon Residentiary of Wells Cathedral. He remained there until 1974, serving as Chancellor and Precentor, and the literary activity of his later years centred on the history of the Chapter and its records.

COLONEL W. J. SHOOLBRED

A correspondent writes:
Walter Shoolbred, who died on February 23, at the age of 78, will long be remembered with admiration and affection by many disabled war pensioners from the three services throughout the country to whose welfare and comfort he had devoted the last 20 years of his life.

In 1963 he became director of the "Not Forgotten" Association which was founded in 1920 "in the service of wounded and disabled ex-servicemen and women".

His dedication, energy, and attention to detail and his singlemindedness of purpose had a marked effect in increasing the resources available to provide for the disabled. But much of his strength lay in his determination to spend as much time as possible visiting hospitals, meeting the disabled, listening to their problems and travelling with them on expeditions and occasions organized by the Association.

After his retirement in 1981 he was appointed vice-president and continued to take an active part in the numerous occasions organized by the Association.

He was educated at Harrow and the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich and was commissioned in to the Royal Artillery in 1925. In 1931 he transferred to the Indian Cavalry and joined Hodson's Horse (4th Duke of Cambridge's Own Lancers). During the war he saw active service in the Middle East and Italy where he was appointed OBE and was Mentioned in Despatches.

After Indian Independence he transferred back to the Royal Artillery with whom he served until he retired in 1958 after commanding the Army Apprentice College at Chepstow. He then became Editor of the *British Army Review* a post he held until he joined the "Not Forgotten" Association.

He was, for 25 year, Honorary Secretary of the Indian Cavalry officers Association devoted to keeping together those who had served together in pre-partition India. But he also maintained very close touch with his old regiment and with the new armies of India and Pakistan and played a significant part in building and maintaining the relationship with this country which exists today.

In 1935 he married Millicent Rosling who died in 1981 and is survived by one son and one daughter.

MR HUGH WAKEFIELD

Mr Hugh Wakefield, who died suddenly at his home at Frigiliana, in southern Spain, on February 8 at the age of 67, was Keeper of the Circulation Department at the Victoria and Albert Museum from 1960 to 1975, and an authority on ceramics and glass of the Victorian period.

His two books, *Nineteenth Century British Glass* (1961 and 1982) and *Victorian Pottery* (1962), became standard works. He also edited the Victorian Collector series and contributed to a number of other publications, including *World Ceramics* (1968).

After education at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and Trinity College, Cambridge, he joined the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in 1938 and, apart from war service from 1942 to 1946, remained there until 1948. He then joined the Victoria and Albert Museum as an assistant Keeper.

During his time there he was also a governor of the National Museum of Wales 1960-75, a member of the Council of the Museums Association 1960-63, and a member of the Crafts Advisory Council 1971-1975. From 1974 to 1975 he was chairman of the committee for museums of applied art of the International Council of Museums.

Hugh Wakefield had a warm and outgoing personality. Always approachable, he generously shared his knowledge and expertise with others. After his retirement in 1975 he served as executive committee member and judge for the National Heritage Museum of the Year Award.

He is survived by his wife Hilary and a son and a daughter.

MR L. P. THOMPSON-McCAUSLAND

Mr Lucius Perronet Thompson-McCausland, CMG, who died on February 16 at the age of 79, was an Adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England from 1949 to 1965, and as such played a leading part in matters of international monetary policy.

He was born on December 12, 1904, and educated at Repton and King's College, Cambridge. He had a short spell with Helbert Wagg and Co, the merchant bankers, and then spent some years in financial journalism, first with the *Financial News* and later with Moody's Economist Service. He joined the Bank of England in 1939.

Throughout his time there he concentrated on international monetary issues. He went with Keynes to meetings that prepared the way for the Bretton Woods conference, towards the end of the war. After the war was over he was involved in opening up the commodity markets.

In 1949 he became an Adviser to the Governor, and in that capacity he was later a senior member of the British delegation at meetings of the Ossola committee, which elaborated the system of special drawing rights. In the early 1960s he was responsible for much of the thinking that went into the Maudling plan for the sterling balances.

After his retirement from the Bank of England in 1965 he spent three years as a consultant to the Treasury on international monetary problems.

MR RONALD MOODY

A correspondent writes:
Ronald Moody, the Jamaica-born sculptor who lived and worked in London for nearly 40 years, died on February 6 at the age of 74.

His outstanding works are probably the massive, dignified but peculiarly sensitive human figures he carved from hard woods like oak, teak and rosewood. They are neither typically African, in a narrow "ethnic" sense, nor typically Western. They evoke the kind of classical calm found in the history of many cultures – in Africa, for example, in Egyptian wood sculpture or the Nigerian Ife terra-cotta heads, both of which influenced Moody's work.

Ronald Moody was born in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1910. Breaking the mould of a conservative middle-class family, he left Jamaica to become an artist in the early 1930s, never to return.

He worked and exhibited in Paris until the War and the Occupation forced him to make the perilous journey to Britain. He settled in London. Aside from his personal work, he carried out a good many portrait commissions.

Though representatives of African and Caribbean museums visited his Chelsea studio to acquire his work, and he was awarded Jamaica's highest cultural honour, the Musgrave Gold Medal, in 1978, to the British art world he remained very little known.

In 1976 he headed the UK Visual Arts Committee of the Festival of Black and African Arts and Culture (FESTAC), held in Lagos, Nigeria. His sculpture was last seen in London at a special exhibit to mark 21 years of Jamaican independence held at the Commonwealth Institute last September.

Lady Neden, widow of Sir Wilfred Neden, CB, CBE, formerly Chief Industrial Commissioner, Ministry of Labour and National Service, died on January 25 at the age of 84. She was Louie Violet Ryan, and she married Sir Wilfred Neden as his second wife in 1967. He died in 1978

Mr James Hornby, who died on February 21 at the age of 59, was headmaster of Bramcote School, Scarborough, 1957-67, and of Clifton College preparatory school, Bristol, 1967-82. He was elected chairman of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools in 1966, 1971 and 1975

THE TIMES Saturday

25 FEBRUARY – 2 MARCH 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

The high rollers

The gambling industry by Alan Hamilton
Part 1: The casinos



Photomontage by Michael Bennett

Ten o'clock on a wild, wet February night, and the gale is snatching up the dustbins to spew their garbage over the pavements of Mayfair. Old cardboard and orange peel swirl round the Mercedes wheels that line both sides of the street, and a Chinese lady decanted from a maroon Daimler limousine clutches wildly at her billowing skirt. Bleak, Presbyterian weather.

Inside the casino, beyond the polite but vaguely menacing phalanx of uniformed doormen that you would not dream of gatecrashing, rafts of blue aromatic smoke from broomstick-thick Romeo y Julietas hang in the still, warm air under chandeliers and mahogany panelling redolent of a between-the-wars Cunard stateroom, spiced with a dash of Turkish brothel from the red-shaded lamps over the gaming tables.

The low buzz of conversation from a hundred sober-suited punters is punctuated neither by squeals of delight nor wails of dismay but only by the relentless clack of plastic chips and the bouncing rattle of roulette balls. Fifty-pound notes vanish monotonously down the croupiers' slots without so much as a rustle of protest; they are usually crisp new ones, peeled from a pack.

I am granted the rare facility of a visit, on condition that I do not mention to which casino, and that I keep mum about anyone I happen to recognize therein. Managements are fearful of crossing both the Gaming Board, and its strict ban on advertising, and their customers, who do not appreciate the womb of privacy offered by London's gaming clubs being breached by professional noseyparkers, particularly those of the Dempster genre.

Honouring the bargain presents no problem; I do not recognize a soul, and I have to, search for some minutes to find even a recognizably English face.

Arabs predominate, apeing local customs in their English-cut suits and their thoroughly English impassivity at the ebb and flow of oil fortunes across the tables, as though being relieved of surplus money was a necessary purgative to be endured by every devout Muslim. Next in number appear to be the Hongkong Chinese, to whom gambling is an endemic and incurable disease and who, feeling no shame at their infection, allow themselves a modest degree of animation at the tables.

Here too are fair numbers of Greeks and Indians, a sprinkling of Nigerians, and just one young blond Englishman in solitary state at the punto banco table, wishing forlornly that somebody would come and play with him. "If we had to rely on Englishmen", the manager confides, "we'd close tomorrow".

Recession is not a word which obtrudes too often upon the vocabulary of those who play the London casinos regularly. When the cold winds whistle, those with the best perches don't get blown off the tree. Strange, though, that the birds on the best branches seem to be mostly foreign species, even if most of them do give a London address when applying for casino membership.

In the heady 1960s, when London was having a final fling before the onset of terminal rot, the gay blades of the gaming tables were the likes of John Aspinall, Lord Lucan, Dominic Elwes, Jimmy Goldsmith. Where are they now? Elwes is dead, Aspinall and Goldsmith are casino proprietors and therefore legally discouraged from being punters, and Lucky Lucan has not been seen at the tables, or anywhere else for that matter, for a while.

Even Aspinall's club, which probably attracts more English than any of the other upper-crust London casinos, regards native business as an insignificant fraction of its turnover. The proprietor can only guess at the reasons: today's upper-class English are not brought up in the atmosphere of carefree opulence that their fathers were, gaming is no longer fashionable, they don't like clubs full of foreigners, their wealth is in assets rather than the greasy folding stuff, or most likely, they just don't have as much of it as they used to do.

If you discover a genuine home-grown high-roller in the London clubs these days, he is more likely to be a camel-coated car dealer from Dagenham than any ducal scion from the pages of *Debrett*.

But before you dash off to knit blankets for the starving children of the casino proprietors, consider this: in the year ended August 1983 the total "drop" (the money exchanged for gaming chips, and therefore a very fair guide to total income) in the 19 London casinos was £894m, more than twice the total amount gambled in the 98 British provincial casinos put together.

It was, admittedly, an exceptional year, accounted for by a sudden explosion of business in the late summer of 1982. That apart, London gaming has declined in real terms by about 7 per cent since 1978, and the annual figures to be released by the Gaming Board next month will show the trend continuing. Peak attendances on any one night at the London tables are down from 1,849 in November 1978 to 1,170 in September 1983.

Business is at the mercy, not of the British economy, but the vicissitudes of Middle East politics. The Arabs first came to London because they had to abandon their traditional gaming centre of Beirut, England was a safe and stable haven for their petrodollars, and they enjoyed the intimate club atmosphere where they could take their vast retinues in reasonable privacy.

They were rich beyond all imagining: the Saudi royal family, Adnan Khashoggi, and the legendary Arab, who in six years cashed £18m worth of cheques at the old Playboy Club, of which only £2m bounced.

Many of them drifted away again, for various reasons. The cleansing fire of the Ayatollah's revolution cut off gigantic Iranian gambling funds at a stroke, and sent chilling ripples of righteousness throughout the Arab world. The brouhaha over the film *Death of a Princess* persuaded many Saudis to abandon London in protest; nor were many of them amused at being pictured in the *Daily Mail* enjoying the wicked high life while back home their subjects were having their hands cut off for fornication and usury.

Last year a severe tremor on the Kuwaiti stock exchange sent the gamblers from that particular shaikhdom scuttling home to find their assets frozen. And then there was the nasty business which is still referred to in some quarters of the London casino business as "the holocaust".

The 1968 Gaming Act has succeeded admirably in its primary purpose of keeping the London casinos out of the hands of organized crime, into which they were on the verge of falling in the mid 1960s. But even the legitimate proprietors began to find its web of legal strictures uncomfortably tight in their eagerness to grab a slice of what by the late 1970s had become an inordinately rich cake.

Casinos were bribing police officers to raid the police computer for the names of the owners of the cars parked regularly outside rival establishments, so that they could offer inducements to cross the street. The 48-hour rule, which keeps you from the tables until you have been a club member for at least two days, was being regularly breached. And worst of all, some casinos were accepting cheques but not cashing them, and collecting the gambling debts by strongarm methods later.

It all created a highly unpleasant stink; seven casino licences were withdrawn, and three of the major operators – Playboy, Ladbrokes and the Coral group – decided to get out of the London casino business altogether. The bad publicity temporarily scared away some rich foreigners, although the figures suggest they have gradually made their way back.

The big money returned in spectacular fashion one evening just over a year ago, when four Arabs walked into the recently reopened Clermont Club and walked out again several hours later richer to the tune of £4m.

Such magic moments, the casino men insist, are extremely rare. And it is an immutable feature of gaming that the wins are more spectacular than the losses, at least to the spectator. Stake £200, the maximum allowed on a single number at roulette in London, and the most you lose is £200. But if you win you pick up £7,000, a stack of chips as big as a bucket, which as Runyon would say is a whole lot of potatoes. Stake £5,000, the maximum allowed on an evens chance, and you only double it.

Back in our necessarily anonymous casino, the manager is greeting one punter after another as old friends. Customers tend to be regular, and are known not only by their names but by their credit rating.

The action is overwhelmingly at the roulette tables, confusingly referred to as American roulette when it is in fact the European variety with a single zero, but at which the croupiers call "Place your bets" rather than *"Faites vos jeux"*. The average stake seems to be about £50, well below the permitted maximum. Nearby, three bored croupiers sit awaiting custom at the single French roulette table, the same game but played with a little more *élan*.

The only other game attracting much attention is blackjack, which the serious punter believes is the only casino activity where the player has the remotest hope of ever having the odds in his favour, although it still requires a prodigious amount of luck, and a photographic memory for the cards.

American roulette accounts for over 60 per cent of the drop in the London casinos, with punto banco second at 20 per cent, and blackjack at 17 per cent. French roulette and craps, never as popular in Europe as in America, where they like to accompany their gaming with a lot of shouting, are insignificant, as is soft gaming in the form of poker, baccarat, or kalooki, a variation of gin rummy.

Soft gaming, where the casino hires out a seat at a table rather than taking a cut of the pot, was originally introduced as an attraction for women punters, but its lack of profit has largely squeezed it out, although not entirely.

Gambling is defined as playing a game of chance or skill where the odds are against you. If the odds are in your favour, it is called investment.

Investment is the game the casinos play. They do not make their profits from customers' spectacular losses; they make it from the steady flow of money across the roulette table, where the single zero gives the house a built-in edge of 2.7 per cent. Considering that in the ebb and flow of win and loss, every chip purchased is wagered on average eight times before the customer cashes in and leaves, the flow of money is, to say the least, steady. Anyone who plays double-zero roulette, where the house's advantage is 5.4 per cent, is a mug.

It's a winning game when the odds are on your side. In 1982 the Ritz and Casanova casinos, which are run jointly by Grand Metropolitan and Pleasureama, together recorded a pré-tax profit of £15m.

The casinos do not like big losers; they are bad for business. And they are, our anonymous manager insists, rare. "We know most of the people in here", he says, "and they know how much they can lose. They are mature people. It is extremely rare that we have to approach a client as though he were a drunk at a bar and politely suggest to him that he has lost enough for one night."

England treats gambling rather like prostitution, recognizing its existence and allowing it as a necessary outlet for deep and dark desires, but ensuring that nothing whatsoever is done to encourage it. The French regard gambling as healthy fun as long as it is kept in its proper place, which is why all the casinos are at the seaside and not in Paris. The Americans see it as a splendid way of raising state revenue, which is why almost anything goes in Las Vegas and the burgeoning new gaming centre of Atlantic City.

English law is so strict that it almost drives casino gaming into the category of a secret vice. The number of casino licences in London, which reached a peak of 24 and then dropped to 16 after the holocaust, has crept up again to 19. But to acquire a new one an applicant must prove that there is an unstimulated demand waiting to be satisfied.

Having won his licence, he may then not advertise his casino in any way in Britain (although there is nothing to stop him buying full-page advertisements in foreign newspapers) and he may not offer his customers any inducements beyond what are described as "usual club facilities". In practice that means a subsidized restaurant and the provision of courtesy cars, which as likely as not will drive a customer to a rival casino free of charge.

The Gaming Board, now under the chairmanship of Lord Allen of Abbeydale, a former permanent under-secretary at the Home Office, has become markedly stricter in such matters since the holocaust.

A gambler, faced with a choice, will tend to patronize the casino where he last struck lucky. But beyond that, almost the only way one casino can take business from the others is to acquire bigger and better premises. John Aspinall, the doyen of the London industry, is reopening the old Curzon Club on March 31, which will give him 11 roulette tables instead of his present six, and even plusher surroundings. But he was granted a licence only on condition that he closed his present club in Hans Place.

Similarly, Trident Television is relinquishing its licence on the Connoisseur Club so that it can move nearer the top end of the market in new premises at the Royal Garden Hotel: this will give it six tables instead of five.

Lonrho, as unlikely a casino operator as Trident, is relinquishing its licence on the International Sporting Club, where the lease has expired, to restart the former Playboy Club in Park Lane, but without Bunny girls. The Gaming Board does not like Bunnies, or dancing, or cabaret, or live music.

Despite every effort of English law to ensure that the gambler does not enjoy himself any more than is strictly necessary, London has quietly reestablished itself among the international sporting community. It attracts those who can afford to ignore the incontrovertible fact that, on average, for every £100 of chips you cash, you will have donated £20 to the casino by the time you leave, and who choose to ignore Girolamo Cardano's sixteenth-century dictum: "The greatest advantage in gambling lies in not playing at all".

That's the trouble with the modern English punter: he is playing so little that two provincial casinos, which do not enjoy the benefits of oil revenues, are currently in the hands of the receiver.

A casino going *bust*? My God, the recession must be every bit as bad as they say.

The owners of London's 19 casinos, with the establishments they run, are:

Grand Metropolitan: Golden Nugget, Sportsman, Palm Beach, Rendezvous.
Trident Television: Victoria, Clermont, Connoisseur (moving to Royal Garden Hotel), Village.
Lonrho: Crockford's, International Sporting (moving to former Playboy Club).
Pleasureama: Maxim's.
Distinctive Clubs: Charlie Chester's, Golden Horseshoe.
John Aspinall: Aspinalls (moving to former Curzon Club with a public company flotation).
Reo Stakis Organization of Glasgow: Stakis Regency.
Independents: Cromwell's Mint, London Park Tower.
Under joint ownership (Grand Met 75 per cent, Pleasureama 25 per cent): Ritz, Casanova.

Brian Harris

Laying the tables: Casino staff preparing for nightly business in Monte Carlo

Rich pickings for the Chancellor



The return of the high-rollers to London's casinos is proving very popular with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. His "take" from gaming duty on casino operations has shot up more than fivefold in the last four years. The duty should raise more than £30m in the current year.

This still represents only a modest 5 per cent of the £600m a year which the Customs and Excise collects from the British gaming and betting public. But, as even casino owners will privately admit, it is a much more realistic and equitable sum than was the case until four years ago, when the whole system of casino taxation was overhauled.

The reforms came into effect in October 1980; before then, the only tax on casino gambling consisted of an annual levy payable by the casino operators. This was based on a fixed-rate formula linked to the ratable value of the premises and the number of tables in play.

The chief defect of this system, as the Royal Commission on Gambling observed in 1978, was that the amount raised bore little or no relation either to the amount of money being staked or to the casino's profitability. The yield was small, and quite out of proportion to the much higher taxes paid by racegoers and other gaming industries. It was also easily dodged.

Whereas the tax on off-course betting raised 7.5 per cent of the money staked by punters, the commission found the casino levy represented only a miserly 0.13 per cent of bets placed. It was a heaven-sent opportunity for any Chancellor seeking easy pickings.

Under the new rules, the casino operator pays a modest fee (£300) every six months when his licence is renewed. But he also pays a levy on the gross gaming yield in his casino – that is, the amout of money staked less the winnings that have been paid out.

The basic rate is 5 per cent, but this rises to 25 per cent for any casino whose gross yield is more than £2.25m in the six-month period. This is designed to ensure that the most profitable London clubs pay the most tax. Aspinalls, for example, paid £3.1m in levy last year, more than a tenth of the total raised by the Chancellor.

The Government's take from casino tax jumped from £5.3m in 1980/81 to £11.5m in 1981/2, and soared to £25.4m in 1982/3. This year's Treasury estimate was for £25m, but it will be comfortably exceeded in the light of the continuing strength of the market.

Jonathan Davis

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL/1

David Hewson turns western eyes on the obscure yet enduring rituals of Tibetan Buddhism

Perplexed by prayer wheels and poverty



Curious looks: Country sights in Tibet (top left and right); Below left, a pilgrim advances on hands and knees to the great temple of Jokhang

It began, as pilgrimages should, in the all-embracing blackness of a south China morning. I had travelled for a week from Peking just to reach Szechuan and the only air entry into Tibet. The route was geographical nonsense, like going to Miami via Alaska, but politics bar the foreigner from making a logical entrance through Nepal.

After a two-hour flight across forbidding peaks, we arrived in the land which had fought for 500 years to keep the foreigner at bay. From our base, a few ramshackle huts rather hopefully christened Lhasa Guesthouse Number 2, the Potala Palace rose some six kilometres away through the mist, as tantalizingly aloof as the country over which its royal occupants once ruled. After a fitful sleep I rose early to watch the hoopoes gambolling around our lodgings and then ventured out into the past.

It is virtually impossible to see the country through Tibetan eyes. The Chinese, who "liberated" the region in 1951, act as the visitor's hosts. While they are perfectly willing to show foreigners most things they wish to see, the sense of alienation never diminishes. In a way, this increases one's appreciation of Tibet's exoticism, never allowing the indulgence of concentration on the surroundings alone, but forever forcing comparisons.

In any case, much of Tibetan life is utterly inexplicable to any twentieth-century outsider. Outside the Jokhang temple in the heart of Lhasa, Tibetan Buddhism's St Peter's, the dust-stained pilgrims were hard at their devotions. Some had walked more than 1,000 miles, on the hard road from China, to pay their respects.

A cripple scrambled through the squalid bazaar outside the temple, leaning on a makeshift crutch and swinging his one good leg beneath him. Soon he joined his fellow worshippers, some well scrubbed and clearly affluent, some poor and ragged, some virtually destitute. Outside the red and gold entrance they discarded their belongings, for one a bright brass prayer wheel which had not stopped spinning that morning, for another a bundle of rags.

Whatever their station, the ritual was the same. A mat was produced to keep the body from the filthy ground, and two handrests, pieces of corrugated card if nothing else was available. The the worshipper fell to his devotions for as long as he could manage.

Was there any way in which such simple dedication could be explained to us foreigners, with our expensive cameras, sunglasses and credit cards? I doubted it, and when we entered the temple I knew. Tibet exists as a place apart, distant as much in time as in geographical location.

Gilded statues and the heavy scent of yak butter

Inside the Jokhang, the first thing one notices is the smell rising from hundreds of brass bowls scattered around the interior, each filled with clear yak butter in which gutters a short wick. It is a heavy, congestive smell, producing a smoky, yellow light which barely pierces the gloom.

The halls were filled with Tibetans performing their devotions, throwing a handful of barley wheat at the feet of one Buddha, placing a dried cob of corn before another. I wandered past the gilded statues, which reflected an odd shade of gold in the candlelight, and then climbed to the roof grateful for the fresh, cool morning air. The Potala sat majestically in the distance beyond the ornate eaves of the Jokhang, and a group of women pounded grain in a corner shaded from the pristine brightness of the sun.

Without discomfort, almost without thought, religion penetrated virtually every aspect of Tibetan life. At the School of Medicine, which promised somewhat gingerly to cure appendicitis, like all ills, without surgery, a doctor outlined patiently how closely medical thought was allied to Buddhism. In the quiet corners of temples, silent monks would beg with polite smiles for a photograph of the Dalai Lama.

Buddhism was all around us when we left Lhasa for three days for Xigatse, a 10-hour drive away through mountain passes of astonishing variety decorated in the most awkward of places with giant emblems from the scriptures.

Western civilization seemed even more distant in Tibet's second city. The accommodation was even more spartan, in National Service-style huts with open latrines at the end of each row. The Tashilumpo monastery, the largest working community of monks still surviving, sits halfway up a rocky hillside, a group of low-slung white buildings penetrated by winding cobbled streets down which maroon-robed monks tottered carrying giant flasks of butter tea.

A group of young men watched us with a shy curiosity, sporting cheap enamel badges which, from afar, looked like images of Blackpool Tower. On closer inspection, they turned out to represent the Potala Palace; the wearers were novice monks, part of the first new intake into Tibet's monastic system since the Cultural Revolution.

We wandered through the echoing alleys; it might be the busiest monastery in Tibet, but it looked depopulated, a magnificent relic creaking through its daily rituals. That evening we returned to listen to the chanting of the different orders, rough and meandering among the 40 monks, delicate and eerie in the inner quarters of the abbots.

Tibet's attraction lies not only in its strangeness but also in the absence of tourists. A shortage of accommodation limits the number of foreigners allowed in at any one time to about thirty. The itinerary sounds repetitive, a series of monasteries, temples, and other sights. In fact, simply being in the midst of such an archaic society left every traveller I met convinced that he had completed one of the most memorable journeys in a world where exotic travel can be bought from the high street travel agent.

During the months when visitors are allowed to travel, the weather possesses a pleasant European bite, almost alpine in nature. The air, though thin, is refreshingly cool, but not so chill as to demand much more than a jacket and pullover on most occasions. Rain is infrequent and snow occurs only on the higher reaches. If there is a sudden bout of bad weather, the tourist guides, who seem to expect foreigners to collapse at any moment, carry spare supplies of overcoats along with their oxygen pillows.

Living conditions are basic, with shared bathrooms if one is lucky and a paucity of hot water. The food is edible if repetitive. Although the Chinese, who make up most of the guides, are clearly sensitive about the politics of Tibet, they are usually amenable to changing intineraries to take in new sights and possess none of the ideological rigidity of the Intourist operative.

I discovered this, much to my advantage, in Lhasa when, on the advice of an acquaintance who had visited Tibet a few months earlier, I asked to see a private temple which had recently reopened under the relaxation of restrictions on religion introduced by the Chinese in 1980. "I have never heard of it", the Chinese guide said. But by the next morning he had located the place and we spent a pleasant few hours in the company of an English-speaking Tibetan, just returned from Nepal to help reopen it.

This awe-inspiring remoteness will not last. There is talk of Tibet's first hotel being built, a 1,200-room edifice not far from the Potala, and one can already detect that thirst for the tourist dollar in the faces of some Tibetans hanging around the bazaar outside the Jokhang. In five years, or perhaps even sooner, the last barriers which the Tibetans raised against the outside world, will have fallen. It may well be a place to be seen now or not at at all.

Travel notes

Anyone thinking of visiting Tibet should first see a doctor to ensure that there are no health reasons for not undertaking the trip. Lhasa is 12,000ft above sea level, and virtually every visitor will experience some ill effect from the altitude. In most cases, this is restricted to breathlessness and a few headaches during the first few days in the country. Individual visas are sometimes granted but most visitors will travel in a group.

The largest British group operator to Tibet is Voyages Jules Verne, 10 Glentworth Street, London NW1 (01-486 8080), which offers three-week tours for £2,600 per person. The price includes full board and all transport. One week is spent in Tibet, and Peking, Xian, Chengdu, Canton and Hongkong are also visited. Serenissima Travel, 2 Lower Sloane Street, London SW1 (730 9841), offers a similar itinerary.

Fields of asphodel beneath the peaks of Parnassos

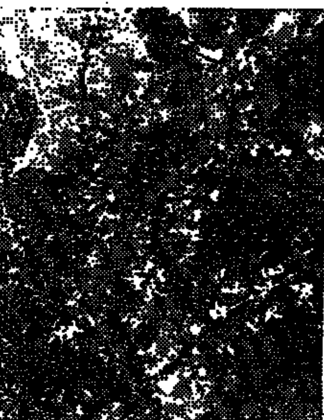
One of the first Greek words I learnt was "louloudhi". Like an inquisitive child I was always pointing at flowers and asking, "What's this?" "Louloudhi ine", came the unvarying reply, no matter what flower I had asked about. Eventually the penny dropped and I realised that louloudhi simply meant flower.

So I tried a different tack. I would say, "I know this is a louloudhi, but what's its name?" The reply was the same, except that it would be preceded by an "Eh!", one of those expressive Greek gestures: a slight expulsion of breath like a mild grunt, accompanied by a lifting of the shoulders, a down-turning of the corners of the mouth and slight lowering of the eyelids, meaning, "I don't know, and the fact of my not knowing is in no sense evidence of ignorance. Such questions are trivial". So I gave up asking.

But it is a pity to take no interest in wild flowers in a country, like Greece, where nature has been so wildly profligate in bestowing both number and variety. Dry statistics tell us that over 6,000 species are to be found there, compared, for instance, with 2,000 in Britain, a country almost twice the size. Of those 6,000 species more than 600 are endemic, many very locally distributed, confined sometimes to one island or even one mountain, like the African Violet's relative, *Jankaea heldreichii*, which lives on the slopes of Mount Olympus under the not-so-efficacious protection of both gods and secular authorities.

If you have seen only the parched brown landscape of summertime Greece it seems incredible that anything fresh, green or flowery could arise from that dry dirt. Yet even by the beginning of October, when there has been no more moisture than a little dew and a couple of rainstorms since April, the stony ground is covered with cyclamen and autumn crocuses. At Cape Sounion, near the white temple of Poseidon where proto-vandal Byron carved his name, a little sweet-flowered narcissus manages to push its way up to the autumn sun through ground stamped hard by the feet of thousands of visitors. In the lanes of Spetses clumps of yellow crocus-like sternbergia nudge aside the plastic bags, and other unsightly detritus of modern village life.

The real flower time, of course, is spring. The fields are full of anemones and the roadsides thick with irises and grape hyacinths. Gladioli and tulips grow in the young corn, followed by sheets of crimson poppies. The white almond blossom is out and the gawdy mauve-pink flowers of the Judas tree, said to be its blush of shame at having served Judas Iscariot for a gibbet.





Heavenly Hellenes: Judas tree (left) and Sternbergia Lutea

If you should happen to make an Easter visit to Delphi, go down to Galaxidhi on the coast below the ancient site. It is a beautiful village, one of the few to have escaped the disfiguring blight of concrete and flat roofs. Stroll along the shore. On a bright spring day the view is breathtaking. You look back across the blue waters of the bay to where Delphi lies under the red cliffs of the Phaedriades. Above it, the snowy peaks of Mount Parnassos are dazzling white against the azure sky.

The sun warms the skin, but the air is still cool enough to leave a pleasant tang of freshness in the nostrils. The hillsides are yellow with broom and Jerusalem Sage. Everywhere are stately ranks of white asphodel, the flower Edward Lear irreverently calls "assfiddles" in the notes he scrawled in the corners of his sketches.

All these are flowers you cannot fail to notice. But if you once bend down and search deliberately among the low scrubby bushes that cover so much of lowland Greece, all sorts of other beauties are revealed. Most extraordinary and delicate are the numerous orchids, in particular the bizarre-looking ophrys, whose names testify to their curious shapes and intricacy of design: sawfly, woodcock, horsefly, horseshoe, mirror-of-Venus ... and that last one is a beauty: the lower part of the flower is a lip of pure blue enamel, held out to reflect the sun, the very thing for the Queen of Love to preen in.

But the Elysian Fields for flower-hunters in Greece must surely be the mountains, where spring comes only in May or June after the winter snow has begun to melt. There you find acres of crocuses, yellow, lilac and magenta violets, hellebores, gentians, orchids, low-growing crimson geraniums and clumps of blue campanulas trailing their frail trumpet-shaped flowers from tiny rock crevices.

The mountains offer other pleasures too. The gullies are bright with icy streams from the melting snow. Butterflies bask in patches of sunlight filtering through to the forest floor. Fritillaries settle wherever there are stands of thistle, and high above the treeline you find the spectacular Apollo butterfly, whose wide white wings are veined with black and ringed with great red discs.

The most convenient field guide to the Greek flowers is Huxley and Taylor's *Flowers of Greece and the Aegean* (Chatto & Windus, £5.95). The most useful information about flower-hunting locations is contained in Oleg Polunin's *Flowers of Greece and the Balkans* (Oxford University Press, £40). The Goulandris Natural History Museum in Kifissia, Athens, is also well worth a visit. Flora and fauna arouse little enthusiasm in Greece today, and the museum staff are very appreciative of any interest shown and willing to help with advice about places to go.

The museum also publishes two beautiful, though very expensive, books on wild flowers. One, *Wild Flowes of Greece* by C. N. Goulimis, is illustrated with paintings by Niki Goulandris, and attractive prints of these are on sale at the museum. The other, *Wild Flowers of Mount Olympus*, by Arne Strid, has superb colour photographs of so many species that it could almost serve as a guide to the entire Greek flora.

Tim Salmon

The New Incas

The New Incas, a limited-edition photographic album, is published by The New Pyramid Press, not Pyramid Press as stated last week.

TRAVEL/2

John Ardagh gets his tongue round the linguistic and gastronomic specialities of the Basques

Three 'txeers' for those reactionary fish dishes

My gastronomic tour of the Basque country began in the Pyrenees with a rich wine stew of wood-pigeon. More precisely it began with catching these pretty *palombes*, a sport that could well turn a bird-lover into a vegetarian. It was early autumn when we made our way to a Spanish pub on a frontier pass in the hills south of St-Jean-de-Luz: here French and Spanish Basques had gathered with shotguns for their annual pastime of pigeon-trapping.

The birds were migrating from the Baltic to North Africa, and the hunters had strung big nets from tree to tree across the steep valley to trap them as they flew up over the pass. To scare them into the nets, they beat drums, blew bugles, and hurled white discs which some birds mistook for prey. Then they finished them off with their guns or by twisting or biting their necks. "It's disgusting", said one very modern Basque girl, "but these birds are no fools. They're getting wise to the danger, and they fly higher to avoid the trap."

Conservation's gain would be gastronomy's loss: a black and pungent *salmis de palombe* is one of the most delicious and popular Basque specialities. In the French Basque country, other local dishes to go for are *ttoro*, a fish stew in white wine, and *pipèrade*, a kind of ratatouille with scrambled eggs. However, Basque cuisine is more varied and subtle in the Spanish provinces.



Global significance: San Sebastian, a great food centre

San Sabastian must be one of the most food-minded cities in Europe: it has nearly 100 "gastronomic clubs" where men (without their wives) go to cook and eat their favourite dishes, while the enclosed, secretive restaurants of the old quarters under Monte Urgull are always full of big families devouring enormous meals with an even greater intensity and devotion than in France.

The accent is on fish, including some bizarre delicacies. I was disappointed by the ubiquitous *txangurro* (crab-shell, stuffed with its own mixed meat, baked with rum and cognac), but I enjoyed the *kokotxas* which is, improbable though it may sound, poached thyroid gland of hake.

Those Basque xs and zs! This strange language has been elevated to official status now that the Basque provinces have some autonomy and are formally bilingual, like Canada. Hispanified words are being re-basquified, the "ch" turned into "tx", which is similarly pronounced. It can produce odd results such as "lamb txop" or "txocolate", both regularly featured on tourist menus printed in English.

A worse hazard for the visitor is the recent much-trumpeted appearance of *la nueva cocina vasca*, a Basque imitation of the French *nouvelle cuisine*. Spicy Spanish dishes are now being cooked more blandly and served in small portions at fancy prices.

In France, *nouvelle cuisine* is at least an intelligent variation on *haute cuisine*, and can work well: but Spain has virtually no such tradition, and robust Spanish cooking does not lend itself to the *nouvelle* treatment. Fortunately, there are now signs of consumer resistance.

From the Basque country we travelled west to Cantabria, around Santander, which also has its *nueva cocina*. At one very modish rural restaurant in a millhouse we were given tuna mousse, mixed salad of avocado and anchovies, and a completely tasteless mussel soufflé, with celery sorbet between courses. "My aim", said the ambitious owner, "is to change Spaniards' eating habits, to make them less coarse, more intellectual. I invent my own dishes and accept no chef who has previously worked elsewhere." The results spoke for themselves.

From this high-minded purist and others of his kind I learnt that in Spain today cooking is politics. Many of the new wave of chefs are left-of-centre liberals, for whom this *nueva cocina* is a political gesture, an assertion of the new democratic Spain against the Falangist past represented by traditional cuisine.

Clams, prawns and a two-headed sardine

At the risk of appearing Falangist, you are well advised to stick to classic dishes. Especially fish. At the several excellent fish restaurants in Santander we enjoyed white haricots with clams and garlic, unusually succulent tiny prawns which locals claim are unique to Santander and found only at the equinox; and *percebes*, raw claw-shaped goose-barnacles which are scraped off the rocks at low tide.

Partly because meat in Spain tends to be tough and scraggy, the Spanish eat more fish than any other Europeans, and in greater variety. Hence the indignation of the north-coast fishermen at their virtual exclusion from EEC waters. The Spanish are obsessed by fish. At the marine museum in Santander we were proudly shown a two-headed sardine found in 1913.

From the museum we walked to the charming, pine-covered peninsula of La Magdalena, where the Victorian Gothic hilltop palace built for the young Alfonso XIII now houses an international university.

La Magdalena, now a civic park, is full of surprises not least the notices warning that "police dogs roam after 10 pm" – the place is much used by local couples enjoying the new Spanish permissiveness. This has no connexion with the *Dia di Lecheria* that we found in progress in the park. It was a dairy show, a reminder that Cantabrians, whatever the meagreness of their beef, have a passion for other products of the cow. They must be among Europe's leading milk drinkers. One common dessert on menus is *leche frita*: "fried milk" may not sound appetizing, but this caramelized custard is, in fact, delicious.

There was more milk at Santillana-del-Mar, the famous medieval village near Santander where seigneurial mansions line cobbled, traffic-free streets. It has been carefully preserved – somewhat in aspic, perhaps, yet retaining a more potent feeling of the past than do most showpieces.

We had read of "little stalls selling the local speciality, a glass of milk and a kind of biscuit", so we went in search of this enticing gastronomy. And facing the splendid Romanesque church was a booth serving warm milk with sponge cake for 35 pesetas. Villagers were queuing for it. I was told that this is a recent revival of a medieval custom, when pilgrims halting at the church on their way to Santiago were offered this sustenance. The Basques, no doubt, would have txurned it into txeese.

Brittany Ferries runs a car ferry from Plymouth to Santander, twice a week each way throughout the year; the crossing is 24 hours. The cost of a single journey for a carload is from £46 to £120, depending on size of car and time of year. Details from Brittany Ferries, 2 Endell Street, London WC2. (01-836 5885).

also on page 34

Beryl Downing answers the key questions about microwave ovens

Why the new wave is hot stuff

Small is beautiful again in the kitchen. There was a time when the small screen was regarded as akin to a video nasty – but all is now forgiven. I am not talking about breakfast television but microwave ovens.

Bejam was one of the first high-street retailers to stock these ovens in 1978 when fewer than 1 per cent of the 20 million households in Britain had one. By 1981 the figure was still only 2½ per cent, but last year it rose to 5½ per cent and the forecast for 1984 is 7½ per cent.

With an expected 760,000 new models being sold this year, that will make a total of 1,500,000 microwave ovens in use by the end of the year.

The lean years were certainly caused by the scares about safety and it has taken the industry a long time to recover from unfounded fears about eye cataracts, cancer and other horrors. These stories originated in the United States and were, it has now been proved, as ludicrous as the tale of the woman who dried off her poodle in a microwave and had nothing left but an astrakhan muff.

The problem was the word radiation. There are two types of radiation – the ionizing type like X-rays, gamma rays and ultra-violet rays and the safe, non-ionizing type which include microwaves and which do not cause the breakdown of cells.

To reassure people still worried about microwaves the British Standards Institution insists on a maximum leakage limit of 5 milliwatts per square centimetre at a distance of 5cm from the oven door. Radiation spreads and decreases in power as it travels away from the source and the 5mw would have a power of only 0.0005 mw by the time they reached arm's length from the oven door.

In any case that is the maximum leakage allowed and in practice the amounts are much smaller. When the oven door is opened microwaves switch off as instantly as a light bulb.

Not all microwave oven sold in this country – and there are about 50 models to choose from – have been cleared by the British Electrotechnical Approvals Board, so do not buy one without the BEAB label. The label means that models have been independently tested by the Electricity Council Appliance Testing Laboratories and that there are two safety mechanisms – each backing the other up should one fail – to ensure that microwaves cannot operate if the door is open.

Essential basics

How do you choose the right oven? First decide what you want it to do. Bejam did a survey of users, thinking most people wanted a microwave mostly for defrosting, and were astounded to find that 90 per cent used the ovens for primary cooking.

Essential basics are variable control buttons labelled defrost, cook/heat and simmer, or low medium and high, and a turntable to make sure that food cooks evenly without constant manual stirring or turning.

The alternative to a turntable is a "wave stirrer", an automatic but invisible mechanism at the top of the oven which distributes the waves evenly as they enter the oven. Some manufacturers claim that this is as effective as a turntable, but Jill McWilliam, director and chief home economist of Bejam, is not convinced and always recommends a turntable.

A slight disadvantage of the automatically moving platform is that it limits the size and shape of the dishes used. Jenny Webb, home economist at the Electricity Council, suggests the best of both worlds – a cooker with a turntable that can be switched off to accommodate larger quantities. The Belling MW1B at £229.95 and MWS at £289.95 both have this feature.

Microwaves can be used as conventional ovens at the touch of a switch. You can start cooking on microwave and finish on "normal" electric, or you can use the microwave as an extra small oven. The Brother 6510 by Jones & Bros is a dual purpose oven at £345. For local stockists telephone 061-330 6531.

The Brother 6510 microwave/conventional oven costs £345. For stockists telephone 061-330 6531. The oven has a turntable and *can be programmed to brown food after microwave cooking*

Value for money

There are three categories of microwave ovens. The least expensive, basic cooker has a small cavity and low wattage (usually called output) and a simple defrost control. This type costs around £160 but is useful only for quick thawing. In Jenny Webb's experience most people who buy one say that they regret not having chosen something more versatile.

The middle range usually has a higher wattage, 600 – 700w, and a larger cavity with variable power or a temperature probe which helps you to cook by temperature rather than by time. Prices range from £200 to £300. This group of machines should satisfy most people's needs. Tricity 2003 and 2013, National NE 650, Philips 8915, Sharp R 6220 and Bejam 600 are all between £214 and £249.95.

The most expensive category ranges from £300 to £1,000. They are simply not worth the money for ordinary use. Expensive microwaves are like expensive washing machines – they give you more programmes but you still use only three.

What will it cost?

The most important question is whether the microwave oven will cook everything for a family. The answer is no.

I have been testing the Bejam 600 for six months and I find it excellent, time-saving and economical for fish (no smells), baked potatoes, crème caramel (no constant stirring of the sugar), stews, and, surprisingly, chocolate cake (not cakes with no colour of their own). It is also ideal, of course, for defrosting and reheating because it does not dry things out.

But the things it does badly are pastry and roasts. Whatever the home economists say, microwaves tend to steam the meat because they act on the water molecules in food, causing rapid friction and therefore faster cooking. But if I am in such a hurry that I want to make a chicken look less appetising in 30 minutes instead of succulent in 55 minutes, I would rather buy chops.

Special recipes

There are no simple rules for converting conventional recipes for microwaves. You must have microwave recipes and learn to use this style of oven just as you must learn to use an ordinary cooker. *Microwave Cooking* by Jenny Webb, published for Marks & Spencer at £2.25 (in main branches in March), offfers 200 recipes. *Good Housekeeping Microwave Handbook*, with 50 recipes, is also a thorough guide to understanding the principles of using the new medium (£3.95 from W. H. Smith).

Special containers are not entirely necessary for microwave cooking but results are better if you do use them. You must not use metal, including any china with gold or silver decoration, but Pyrex, china and glazed earthenware are suitable and there is a new plastic which has been specially developed for microwaves by Thorpac.

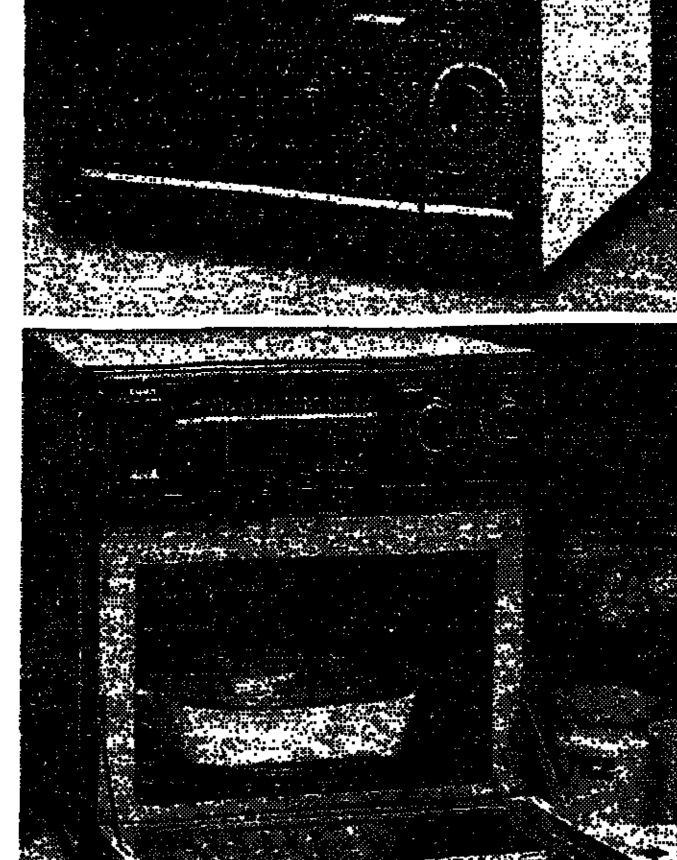
More decorative is the Micratex cookware developed by William Adams. All the cooking dishes have rounded corners and straight sides to ensure even cooking. The line was developed in conjunction with Creda, the cooker manufacturers.

Rumbelows offer eight models of microwave cookers from £129.99 to £269.99; Currys 17 models from six manufacturers from £129.99 to £379.99; Bejam eight models from £149 to £269; and London Electricity showrooms nine from £174.95 to £274.95. Selected models can also be seen at many department stores.

It is worth shopping around, gathering lots of leaflets and comparing prices and versatility. Always buy from a local branch where there is a home economist to help you and offer after-sales advice.

At the ready

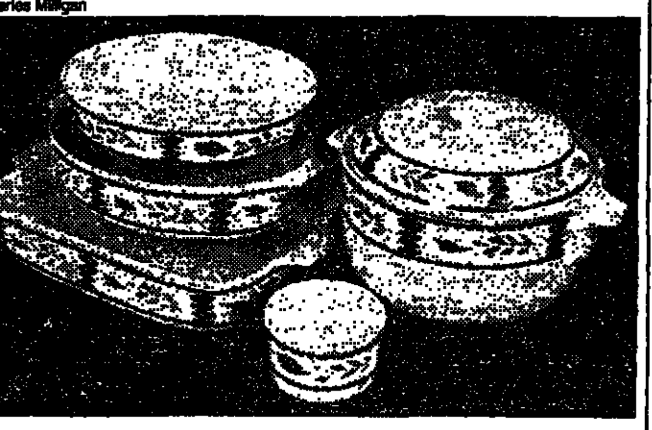
The advantages of microwave ovens are defrosting, speed, reheating without drying out and economy (small portions can be cooked in minutes).



Snug customers (above): The Bejam 600 is the only upright model available and is ideal for those with limited counter space. It also has a useful cooking and defrosting guide in the panel above the oven. On special offer at £229.90 from Bejam centres until March 14

Awkward customers (top): The Belling MW1 has a turntable which can be switched off when cooking large or awkwardly-shaped quantities. The cookery guide is across the top of the machine. At London Electricity Board showrooms, £252

Charles Milligan



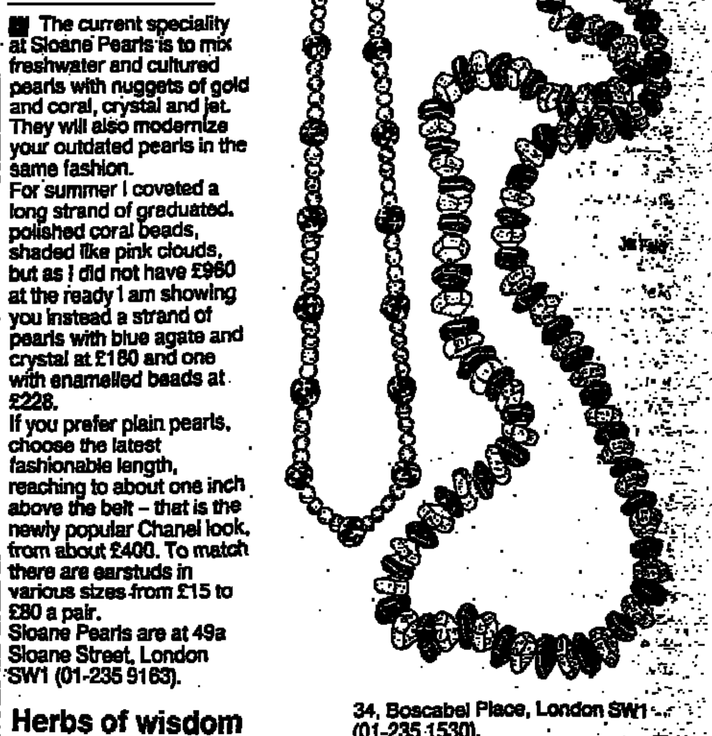
Dishy designs: Lancaster, a long-established William Adams pattern, now also decorates a collection of dishes designed specifically for microwave cooking. Oblong roasting dish £12.85, oval baking dish £8.25, round pie-dish £8, casserole with lid £21.05, ramekin (set of four) £9.90. From Wedgwood rooms

David Hart

New wave: Cream plastic microwave cookware from Thorpac includes (left to right) a roasting rack £9.50, 1 litre jug £5.59, six mini-ramekin dishes £4.95, casserole £13.50, loaf dish £5.95. Also available are a cake dish and flan dish. All at John Lewis and, with a slight price variation at Bejam. The jug will not be available until mid-March

SHOPFRONT

Gem of an idea



The current speciality at Sloane Pearls is to mix freshwater and cultured pearls with nuggets of gold and coral, crystal and jet. They will also modernize your outdated pearls in the same fashion.

For summer I coveted a long strand of graduated, polished coral beads, shaded like pink clouds, but as I did not have £960 at the ready I am showing you instead a strand of pearls with blue agate and crystal at £180 and one with enamelled beads at £228.

If you prefer plain pearls, choose the latest fashionable length, reaching to about one inch above the belt – that is the newly popular Chanel look, from about £400. To match there are earstuds in various sizes from £15 to £80 a pair.

Sloane Pearls are at 49a Sloane Street, London SW1 (01-235 9163).

Herbs of wisdom

Today's vogue for all things organic would have surprised Mrs Hilda Leyel, who founded the Society of Herbalists and the Culpeper shops in 1927 because she was afraid that herbal remedies were about to be swamped by the influx of new chemicals. Culpeper today has a worldwide mail-order service, and the society, now a separate educational charity, runs an annual series of lectures on herbs.

The subjects include propagation of herbs, design of a herb garden and healing with essential oils. Lectures at the Chelsea Physic Garden, 66 Royal Hospital Road, London SW3, will be held on Wednesdays and Saturdays between March 7 and May 12. Tickets to non-members are £2.50 each. More information from The Secretary, The Herb Society, 34, Boscabel Place, London SW1 (01-235 1530).

For those in the north of England, Yorkshire Herbs has just begun its half-day courses. People taking the growing course do some practical work in the garden; those studying fragrance and preserving experiment with pot pourri; and potential herb cooks end their session by having the demonstration dishes for lunch. Fees are £6 and £7.50 for the courses which all start at 9.30am. Details from The Herb Centre, Middleton Tyas, Richmond, North Yorkshire (Barton (0325 77) 686).

A basic information pack is available by mail for £2.60 from The British Herb Trade Association, 46 Church Street, Buckden, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 9SW. It shows easy methods of making hair rinses and cosmetics, offers growing hints and advice on making wine and gives addresses of herb nurseries and shops.

Bags of talent

Readers of this column will know that I admire craftspeople who try to go it alone with nothing to declare but their talent. Such a one is Elspeth Harvey. "All I can do is stitch", she says. "I can't even join the bits up, so the house was full of squares of embroidery and I had to find a use for them."

Her idea was to make soft leather clutch bags with embroidered panelled fronts. Not tapestry – that has been done before – but French knots, which cannot be done by machine.

She found a textile designer to create the patterns, which she stitches and then gives to a leatherworker to make up. Together they are producing a small range of beautifully finished pochettes, 7½in by 4¾in, lined in soft pigskin.

They are made from Pittards leather in burgundy, forest green, mahogany brown, mushroom beige and dark mallard blue and the covers are embroidered in five colours to tone with each leather. There are two designs – the one illustrated and a mosaic design worked in satin stitch. The bags cost £46.50 including post and packaging from Elspeth Harvey, The Toft, Dunston, Near Stafford (0785 780517), and are made to order in about three weeks. A leaflet is available showing the shades available.

Lively London

The perfect book for those who already know London well is called *The Essential Guide to London* (Pan £2.95). It is not so good for occasional visitors to London because half its charm is that it is so opinionated that you can quarrel with it.

David Benedictus, the author, believes that a guide book which "promotes the best without warning against the rest" is no better than a travel agent who recommends a stretch of golden sands without mentioning the sharks which lurk offshore. So he offers worst as well as best buys (except where a worst buy would probably be libellous).

You will find listed the best and worst cemetery, concert hall, embassy, garden, ghost, litter bin, museum, palace, parking meters (the least attended being the best), street market, and so on right through from A For African food to Z for zoo, and quoting en route the Royal Box, Covent Garden as the best lavatory.

Not, I would suggest, an essential guide, but certainly one of the most entertaining. In fact it is the only guide book I have read right through at one sitting, not for what the author says, but for the way he says it.

IN THE GARDEN

Down-to-earth rules for soil preparation

The best time to prepare soil is in the late autumn so that the winter can work on it. Heavy soils especially benefit from the effects of frost, snow, wind and rain. But it is usually about this time of year that gardeners begin thinking of preparing the ground for planting, and there is no reason why soil preparation should not be started now.

There are a number of rules to be observed, and the first is that if the ground is not suitable do not work it. The soil should not be so sticky that it clings to your boots and makes walking difficult. Much damage is caused to the stucture of the soil by working it in unsuitable conditions. If it is so wet that it comes up in great clods on the boots you are doing more harm than good.

It is also important not to work the soil if there is a heavy frost. Light frosts are not a real problem because they go quickly once disturbed. Applying manure or compost on top of frost will simply help to retain the frost in the ground, so wait until a thaw before adding organic matter.

Once the soil is free of frost, manure or compost will protect it from further severe weather, which will make soil cultivation that much easier. Ground being worked now can be left for a little while yet, as there is still a chance that we will get more hard weather.

People often cannot decide on the best method of cultivation. There is no reason why you should not use mechanical



cultivators – they will do an excellent job and take a lot of the heavy work out of the task. But cultivators must be used carefully. There is a wide range of machines to choose from and they do different types of work.

Ground which has been regularly worked in the past is easy to break down and some of the lighter machines will do this very well. Virgin soil or soil which has been heavily compacted needs a much more powerful machine, and you must be able to regulate its forward speed as well as the speed of the rotating blades.

Using rotavators calls for some patience. Do not attempt to cultivate to the depth decided in one fell swoop but take it down in at least two passes. This is easier on the machine and you achieve a better break-up of the soil. A depth of 9in is usual and this can be done by halving the depth at each pass.

Hand digging is the usual method employed in breaking up the soil in most amateur gardens and I consider it vital to hand dig ground which has been rotavated for the past four of five years. Ground prepared by hand will be in a better state than that which has been rotavated – it will not have been battered but merely turned over, allowing the weather to do its work.

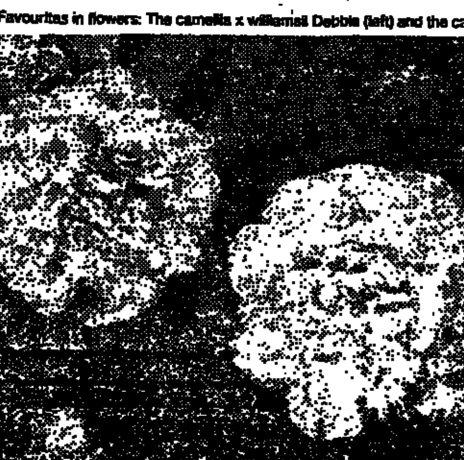
Make no attempt to break the soil down when hand digging at this time. It is all right to incorporate organic matter but make sure this is well buried beneath the soil. Single digging, working soil to the depth of the blade of a spade, about 9in, is usually enough and most plants will accept ground so prepared. But it may sometimes be necessary to double dig, going down to two spade depths. There are a number of plants which like this depth of cultivated soil: sweet peas and runner beans, for example.

Allotments are ready to be worked now and areas where a lawn is to be put down can also be prepared. Most bedding areas will be filled with spring colour and should not be touched at present; the same goes for areas where shrub planting is to take place. Do not dig at this time unless you have plants ready to go in before the weather begins to warm up.

Ashley Stephenson

Next week: Growing geraniums from seed

Favourites in flowers: The camellia x williamsii Debbie (left) and the camellia Adolphe Audusson



Perfect camellia

If I were pressed to name my favourite plant the camellia would be top of my list, or very near it. Evergreens are best planted while there are still signs of growth – late autumn to early winter or late winter/early spring. The best time is in the autumn, but there are few failures in the spring as long as the preparation is right.

Camellias like soil with a high organic content but which is not unduly acid. The soil needs to be well drained and the site should not be in an exposed position.

Camellias planted where they are in for a blow and where the drainage is suspect are unlikely to do well. Soils with a high alkaline content are to be avoided.

Do not deep plant. Ideally the camellia should be planted about one inch below the existing nursery mark (the mark to be found on the stem of the plant which shows the depth at which it was growing in the nursery). Firm planting is needed to prevent the camellia rocking about in the wind. Use the heel and firm-in, but do not go so close to the root ball that you damage either the stem or the roots.

Many varieties of camellia produce early flowers and these forms must be sited for protection from cold or frosty winds. Open flowers should be protected from early-morning sun; scorch is likely in bad weather but is almost a certainty if the flowers are exposed to the sun when still frosted. This is one of the reasons why camellias make good north-wall plants.

Hundreds of varieties are available and they come in many colours. Send for a catalogue from James Trehane and Sons, Camellia Nursery, Stapehill Road, Hampreston, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 7NE. Good plants will cost from £4 upwards according to size.

REVIEW Classical records

Lieder of the old order

Schumann and Brahms: Lieder on Record 1901-52 Many artists. EMI RLS 154 7003 (eight records).
Shostakovich and Kabalevsky: Cello Concertos Yo Yo Ma/Philadelphia/Ormandy. CBS D 37840.
Mahler: Symphony No 7 Concertgebouw/Haitink. Philips 410 398-1.
Airs d'opéra français Hendricks/Monte-Carlo Orchestra/Tate. Philips 410 446 1.

From Fritz Schrödter's beguilingly direct "Nüssbaum" of 1902 to Victoria de los Angeles's kittenish 1951 version of the same, many illuminating revelations lie in store on EMI's new archive collection. Following on from their 1982 Schubert box, EMI and Keith Hardwick have come up with 130 Brahms and Schumann songs, 77 vintage singers, and much previously unpublished material, all of which is excellently transferred and remastered.

The collection includes delights such as Artur Schnabel accompanying his wife Thérèse in Schumann; Julia Culp's complete and fearless 1909 *Frauenliebe*; Chaliapin's "Two Grenadiers" (in Russian, with orchestra!); and Schmitt-Walter's wonderfully individual "Widmung". Elena Gerhard is incomparable in Brahms, John McCormack and Richard Tauber bring to him a distinctly period flavour, and Lotte Schöne, a great Mozartian in her day, sings an exquisite "Wie Melodien".

Another, lesser rarity comes from Yo Yo Ma, who puts Kabalevsky's First Cello Concerto back into the catalogue


Richard Tauber: Period flavour

with a performance urgently alive to the impulsive, fluent invention of this work dedicated in 1948 to Soviet youth. The record's *raison d'être*, however, is an outstanding performance of Shostakovich's First Cello Concerto, which comes very close to the reading of its dedicatee, Rostropovich, in unremitting intensity, although the latter's approach to the slow movement is more lyrical, less uneasily uncompromising.

If Haitink has not been in the very forefront of the public mind as a conductor of Mahler, his new recording of the Seventh Symphony shows exactly what he is made of in this capacity. A bright, physically immediate recording highlights some exceptionally distinctive wind and brass playing, moulding and defining character here, challenging our perception of sound itself there. But most valuable of all is Haitink's ability to hold back in the first movement, to give space for silence and the passage of time; and his subtle touches of pacing in the finale ensure a resonant calm in the eyes of its maelstrom of high spirits.

Barbara Hendricks's selection of French operatic arias provides a little potted history of nineteenth-century French opera, from Berlioz's Teresa in *Benvenuto Cellini* to Charpentier's *Louise*. While there is no one outstanding interpretation here, the character in Hendricks's voice keeps fresh a pot-pourri which is further enlivened by the instinctive support and detail of Jeffery Tate's conducting.

Hilary Finch

Brahmsian certainties in an upsidedown world

Zemlinsky: String Quartets LaSalle. Deutsche Grammophon 2741 016 (three records)
Schoenberg: Choral works Netherlands Chamber Choir/de Leeuw. Philips 411 088-1 (two records)
Ferneyhough: String Quartet No 2; Harvey: String Quartet No 2; Carter: String Quartet No 3 Arditti. RCA RS 9008
Xenakis: String works Arditti. RCA RS 9009

Discovering Zemlinsky has been one of the most popular musical hobbies of the last decade: for a composer who died in virtual oblivion during the Second World War, he has been doing rather well. All his operas have been revived in Germany; two of them were brought by the Hamburg company to Edinburgh last year, where there was also a chance to hear several other works. Now fine performances of the four quartets have been recorded by the LaSalle, whose experience in the Viennese music of this period is unrivalled.

The quartets cover almost the whole of Zemlinsky's composing life (the first was written in 1896, the last in 1936), and although other pieces bear witness to some severe zig-zags of style, there is a certain companionship among these four, possibly because Zemlinsky wrote them as entries in a personal diary. Even the first has distinctive features in the melodies that trail on luxuriantly, or in the paradoxical formal clarity, or in the ironic friction of quite different kinds of musical expression fitted into the same movement.

But the presiding geniuses are those of Brahms and Dvořák, very much as in the D major quartet that Schoenberg wrote in 1897 under Zemlinsky's guidance. In the later quartets Zemlinsky becomes more himself, or rather he takes on that character which seems most fascinating in his music: that of one searching for the Brahmsian certainties in a musical world that his friend Schoenberg had so rapidly turned upside down.

The Second Quartet (1913-14) emulates Schoenberg's First in telescoping the four movements, if in a less aggressively through manner. It is this tension between the charm of the old and the challenge of the new that is responsible for its Mahlerian irony. It is also a work of extreme emotion and musical contrast, working its basic motif all the way from Richard Strauss to Stravinsky. The LaSalle's recording of it has already been available for some years (on Deutsche Grammophon 2530 982).

Those who bought that disc may feel it to be unreasonable that they should now have to acquire a second copy, but I doubt they will delay long. The Third and Fourth Quartets are both more at ease with themselves, being again in short, separate movements and occasionally breathing a radiant nostalgia that is positively Delian. However, the undercurrents of anxiety remain, especially but by no means solely in the post-Mahler burlesques that both works contain.

There is more Zemlinsky – a nervously languorous setting of the Twenty-third Psalm – on the Netherlands Chamber Choir's double album, but here the emphasis is on Schoenberg, whose complete published choral works, excepting those with orchestra, are included. The collection is curiously representative. Two groups of folk-song arrangements show how readily Schoenberg identified himself with Brahms identifying himself with Bach, while the original works include one of the masterpieces of tonality under siege (*Friede auf Erden*) as well as three musically and morally important sets of early serial pieces and two late prayers.

The trouble is that choral sounds which can be exciting in the concert hall – searing harmonies and scorching high soprano lines – are devilishly hard to record and reproduce without distortion, and there are several places on these discs where the effect is of souls in


Alexander Zemlinsky: Undergoing enthusiastic rediscovery

some electronic agony. Happily, the problems are much less acute in the Six Pieces for male chorus, which is also the best of these works.

Other appetites, for the abstruse and for the red hot and raw, are excellently served by two records from the highly talented Arditti Quartet. One offers high-powered imaginings from Brian Ferneyhough and Elliott Carter, wisely separated by a much more tranquil meditation on a melody from Jonathan Harvey. The other combines the computer-calculated splutters and slides of Xenakis's early *ST/4* with the rude assaults of such more recent and strongly shaped works as *Dikhthas* for violin and piano or *Ikhoor* for string trio.

Paul Griffiths

Power of lowered voices in a singular service

Machaut: Messe de Nostre Dame Taverner Consort and Choir/Andrew Parrott. EMI Reflexe ASD 1435761; cassette TC ASD 1435764
Purcell: Fantasias for viols London Baroque/Charles Medlam. EMI Reflexe ASD 1436311; cassette TC ASD 1436314
Renaissance Music in Naples Hesperion XX/Jordi Savall. EMI Reflexe ASD 1436291; cassette TC ASD 1436294
C. P. E. Bach: Six Harpsichord Concertos Bob van Asperen (soloist and director)/Melante '81. EMI Reflexe SLS 14334863 (two records); TC SLS 143869 (one cassette)

After a long period of inactivity in the early-music market since its pioneering and enlightened support of David Munrow, EMI has this month launched a new early-music label which includes some important releases.

Reflexe is not a new name: it is taken from the marvellous series of recordings on EMI Electrola, only sporadically available on import here, which featured the work of the Studio der Frühen Musik, and made a revival in the past couple of years with discs by Hesperion XX, the Hilliard Ensemble, Colin Tilney and others.

Andrew Parrott directs the outstanding item in the initial release, a liturgical reconstruction of High Mass on the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady at Rheims Cathedral, which includes Machaut's *Messe de Nostre Dame*. This is the first known cycle of the ordinary of the Mass that can be attributed to a single composer, and arguments over its performance have raged for years. There are little phrases which look as if they could only be for instruments, but, as Parrott shows they can perfectly well be sung.

More controversial is likely to be his transposition of the work downwards so that it is sung by male voices alone, and by soloists at that. But I find the singing so good that clarity is rarely lost even when the textures become slightly muddy. And the coherence of the overall sound – polyphony alternating with plainchant, sung also by male voices – is very impressive. The plainsong, and chanting of the prayers (Parrott himself "plays" the celebrant with an impeccable French accent) is no mere extra but an integral part of a carefully planned recording which includes bells and sound effects.

Purcell's extraordinary set of fantasias for viols, written in 1680, represents a late flowering of this English form into which the 21-year-old composer poured all his imitative skill and emotional maturity. The complete set of 15 pieces can make daunting listening, but on this new recording London Baroque play them with such lightness and eloquence that one wishes the sequence could go on for ever. The plangent, reedy sound is accentuated by the use of "modern" violins in place of treble viols on the top two lines – it surprised me to learn that this, judging from the clefs he used, was probably what Purcell intended.

The most striking of the foreign ensembles is Hesperion XX, whose record of Renaissance music from Naples is distinguished by soprano Monserrat Figueras's gloriously idiosyncratic singing: direct, occasionally hooty, but infinitely expressive; and by the refreshingly crisp sound of the larger pieces which Jordi Savall directs. We are taken from the late-fifteenth-century court of Alfonso I and Ferdinand I to the early-sixteenth-century court of Charles V.

Bob van Asperen, a pupil of Gustav Leonhardt, has made some splendidly responsive recordings of the curious solo keyboard music of C. P. E. Bach. Some of his later music requires the fortepiano rather than the harpsichord, but there is no doubt that the latter is the right instrument for the six concertos written in Hamburg in 1772. Asperen trips through their bouncy rhythms and quirky phrases with great aplomb, and the orchestra of period instruments which he has gathered together matches him in liveliness.

Nicholas Kenyon

Lyrical Mephistopheles makes up for lost time

Boito: Mefistofele Freni, Caballe, Pavarotti, Ghiaurov, National Philharmonic/de Fabritiis. Decca D270D 3 (three records); K270K 32 (two cassettes)
Verdi: Otello Plowright, Craig, Howlett, ENO Orchestra/Elder. EMI SLS 1436053 (two records); TC SLS 1436055 (two cassettes).

Decca's new *Mefistofele* has been a long time a-coming, several years in fact. The main reason for the delay was the ill health of the conductor, Oliviero de Fabritiis, who died before the set was issued. The contribution of de Fabritiis, who was insufficiently recognized outside his native Italy and inadequately represented in the record catalogue, is a powerful argument for buying this set. He is the most Italian of conductors in this most Italian of works – Boito's Faust opera is some way after Goethe. The mood is elegaic, lyrical and expansive, a worthy finale to Fabritiis's long association with opera.

Pavarotti's Faust is inspired by the same lyrical vein, and an aria such as "Dai campi", shows him at his most refined, with Faust deep in pious reflection before Mephistopheles arrives to upset the tenor of his life. Ghiaurov is Old Nick, a part he is well acquainted with; this Mephisto has plenty of weight but is short


Light and dark: Rosalind Plowright, Charles Craig in Otello

on the sophistication vital to the role.

Mirella Freni's Margherita is a performance which satisfies all round, from the girlish tones of the garden scene to the half-mad misery of "L'altra notte". And there is the bonus of the last Margherita on record (for EMI), Montserrat Caballe, in the small part of Helen of Troy. In sum, a set well worth the wait.

It was, of course, Boito who provided the libretto for Verdi's *Otello*, and it can be heard very clearly in EMI's recording from live performances at the Coliseum. EMI, relatively new in taking opera direct from the theatre, has yet to decide on matters such as the amount of applause to include – if it is allowed at the end of each act, then why not after arias which would normally receive it? – but in other respects this is a very faithful reflection of one of the English National Opera's greatest successes.

Rosalind Plowright's Desdemona shines through the set in a most womanly and carefully evolved interpretation. The "Willow Song" is exquisite, although the following Ave Maria is rather less accomplished. All in all, though, this raises the highest hopes for her next Verdi on record, Leonora in Deutsche Grammophon's *Trovatore*. Charles Craig's Otello comes over somewhat gruff outside the theatre, with the impression that sometimes the voice has to be hoisted up like a mighty weight. But there is Neil Howlett's incisive Iago and consistently eloquent and refined conducting from Mark Elder. The economy-minded should note that EMI, with not too much loss of sound quality, has got this *Otello* on to two records instead of three.

Compact Disc

Opera on CD is really beginning to come on stream. EMI makes its first foray this month with *Zauberflöte* highlights, a little too closely packed together, but there are the pluses of an almost 100 per cent German-speaking cast, led by Jerusalem's Tamino, and the splendidly responsisive conducting of Haitink and the Bavarian Radio Orchestra (CDC 7 47008 2).

Complete operas, both treatments of the Figaro story by Rossini and Mozart, come from Philips and Decca. Philips's *Il barbiere* arrives even fresher on CD than it did on black disc, with Araiza and Baltsa matching each other well and Thomas Allen full of charm in the title role (411 058 – 2). Allen is there again (as the Count) in Decca's *Figaro* (410 150 – 2), which in Solti's high-tension performance is one of the best CD transfers yet.

John Higgins

Drink

Virtue and value of the Rhône



I have yet to meet the French vigneron who does not compare his wine to a woman. The analogy usually goes something like this: "Mais oui, she is an awkward schoolgirl now, but in four years' time she will be beautiful". Quite the most enthusiastic exponent of the comparison must be Henri Brunier from that splendid Châteauneuf-du-Pape estate Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe; his passion for his wines overflows into a hymn to women.

But as he makes one of the finest Châteauneufs, I forgive him. And now it seems that wine merchants too are waking up to the virtues of Rhône reds, since good claret and burgundy have become so pricey. The numerous 1982 Rhône offers put out by several leading merchants are a sign that these undervalued wines are being treated very seriously.

The Rhône produces slightly more wine every year than Burgundy, although considerably less than Bordeaux and its vineyards are some of the oldest in France. Those steep hillside vineyards at Hermitage, for instance, were originally thought to have been planted with the syrah (or shiraz) grape from Persia by Greeks who journeyed up the Rhône valley from their trading post at Marseilles.

Lumping the northern and southern Rhône reds together is a mistake, for wines such as the northern Hermitage and southern Châteauneuf-du-Pape really have little in common, being made from different grape varieties in different climates. Northern Rhône reds, despite the predominance of the syrah, seem more akin to burgundy, just as the southern Rhône reds have much of the spice and guts of the provençal reds.

The 1982 vintage is a good example of the Rhône's dual nationality; while many of the southern reds were a disappointment, the north has produced some real stunners. Max Chapoutier, the fifth generation of his family to head Maison Chapoutier, went so far as to describe the northern 1982 wines as "the best I have ever known".

If the thought of buying a northern 1982 Rhône *en primeur* appeals, get in touch with Les Amis du Vin, who are selling a trio of Paul Jaboulet Aîné's 1982 wines including the revered Hermitage La Chappelle (£68.40 a case for members only, from 7 Ariel Way, Wood Lane, London W12; VAT, duty and shipping charges to be added).

Master of Wine Richard Harvey is also selling Jaboulet's 1982 Hermitage La Chapelle at £93 a case inclusive or £7.95 a bottle – and if you can only afford to lay down one majestic red Rhône from such a magnificent year, this should be it. (Richard Harvey Wines, The Auction House, East Street, Wimborne Minster, Dorset.)

The other great Hermitage name is Jean-Louis Chave, and although I have not tasted his 1982 (£7.75), M Chave's tremendous big rich and beefy 1980 says much for his expertise, especially as 1980 was by no means a great Rhône vintage. (Robin Yapp, The Old Brewery, Mere, Wiltshire).

After Hermitage, the Côte Rôtie, or "roasted hillside", just south of Vienne at the entrance to the Rhône valley, is the other syrah star in the northern Rhône's firmament. Recently I tasted Max Chapoutier's 1980 Côte Rôtie, a rich warm spicy wine with a great deal of class and style and nowhere near as hefty as some of these wines are. (Robin Yapp £8.60.)

The most famous Côte Rôtie name, and deservedly so, is Etienne Guigal, and Adnams carry the very fine 1978 "La Landonne" Côte Rôtie from the Côte Brune – a wonderful wine from a superb year that needs at least another decade in the cellar. (Adnams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk, £13.34.)

Leaving the Rhône without mentioning a wine from the south would not be fair, and although poor old Châteauneuf-du-Pape has almost become the Nuits-St-Georges of the Rhône, wines such as M Brunier's 1980 Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe (Adnams £5.29), with its big purple colour and lovely, spicy, perfumed syrah taste, proves that good Châteauneufs are still being made.

Jane MacQuitty

Eating Out

Bleak outlook for early birds in search of bonhomie

As the cold snap continues, the importance of an early-morning meal increases. For those with the time, and in some cases the money, to breakfast out, we investigate four varied venues

A favourite memory of my one and only visit to New York is of several spectacular breakfasts on Broadway, which offered coffee, fruit juice and a "Morning, how are ya?" before bottom had even touched bar-stool. Unfortunately, the New York notion of breakfast as an "event" does not seem to have registered in London, with few restaurants outside the "greasy spoons" or the larger hotels making any serious effort.

The elegant **Brasserie St Quentin** is one that deserves a mention, even though breakfast is served there only at weekends and is limited to *café complet* – a cup of flavoursome coffee accompanied by a basket of fresh croissants and crisp French bread with butter and miniature jars of Tiptree preserves for £2.50 per person.

Despite these restrictions, the glittering, mirrored brasserie, with its brass-topped bar and bow-tied, waistcoated waiters does impart a sense of occasion, although the dominant mood is of Parisian introspection rather than Manhattan bonhomie.

An American atmosphere is also singularly absent from the Tudor Grill at the **Hilton International Kensington**. A gloomy interior of heraldic shields and wooden beams is dominated by a self-service console offering a continental breakfast (rolls, pastries, cereals, fruit juices, £3.50) or a traditional English one (eggs, bacon, sausages, mushrooms, £4.75) to sad-eyed travellers who all seem to be on their way to Heathrow.

All this tends to dampen early-morning spirits which are likely to be subsequently extinguished by the workings of an infernal toasting machine that steadfastly refuses to deposit your chosen slice on to the waiting tray.

The breakfast at the **Hotel Inter-Continental's** Coffee House is altogether a more convivial experience, incorporating brisk but self-effacing service and a comprehensive à la carte menu with an American flavour. A number of fixed-price menus are offered (from £4.40 to £6.80) including selections from the cold buffet of fruits, cereals, pastries, cold meats and cheeses, augmented by such favourite hot dishes as porridge, kedgeree, kippers or waffles with maple syrup.

Mary Evans Picture Library



Only the bright, airport-lounge-style decor and the rumble of Hyde Park Corner traffic detract from an otherwise exemplary operation.

For immaculate comfort and perfect peace at breakfast time, I doubt if **The Connaught** could be surpassed. The polished panelling, pink table linen, red velvet upholstery and chandeliers belong to a more graceful, unhurried era – high standards of dress, as exemplified by the tailcoated waiters, are required of guests.

The Connaught's menu is a confident assertion of the English country-house breakfast, ranging over immaculate porridge (£1), scrambled eggs, Finnan haddock, fruit compote, kedgeree (£3.50) and grills of steaks, liver or even Dover sole. Pots of high-quality tea and coffee lubricate the proceedings.

A continental breadfast is offered at £4.50, but eating à la carte works out rather more (say £9 a head before 15 per cent service). Even so, it is hard to begrudge the prices for such a stylish, nourishing start to the day.

Stan Hey

Brasserie St Quentin, 243 Brompton Road, London SW3 (589 8005). Sat and Sun, 10-11.30am*.
Hilton International Kensington, 179-199 Holland Park Avenue, London W11 (603 3355). Daily, 7-11am.
Hotel Inter-Continental, The Coffee House, 1 Hamilton Place, London W1 (409 3131). Daily, 7am-noon (buffet until 10.30am).
The Connaught, Carlos Place, London W1 (499 7070). Daily, 7.30-10am.
*Times given are for breakfasts only.

PREVIEW Theatre

Love and marriage and the old unliberated male

Tom and Mary have been married for 20 years, and their daughter is about to leave home. Mary takes a job which she enjoys, and as her way of life changes, so does her relationship with Tom. Tom has difficulty coming to terms with the new situation, and suffers a nightmare journey through nervous breakdown and back.

That is the story line explored in Ted Whitehead's play *The Man Who Fell in Love with his Wife*, which opens at the Lyric Studio theatre on Monday.

"The play is about the problems we have in reconciling the new ideas of liberation and independence with the old ones of love and marriage," Whitehead explains. When Tom's wife gets a job, seeking her fulfilment, he discovers his dependence on her, something he had never suspected. He needs a commitment and has no sympathy with the ideals of liberation in the 1960s and 1970s.

"This is a fresh look at that period of liberation, but it is ambivalent as well as being a critique of romantic love," says Whitehead.

In the play, directed by Peter James, Tom tries to recapture the intensity of early love, of a past rooted in romantic love, by playing a selection of "golden oldie" records – songs by Nat King Cole, the Platters and the Rolling Stones – which could result in the theatre being swamped in nostalgia.

The Man Who Fell in Love with his Wife began life as a BBC television play called *Sweet Nothings*. It was transmitted in 1980 and starred Tom Bell and Lynn Farleigh, who now return to play the leads in the stage version. Whitehead has had to change and rewrite it extensively to enable it to make the transition from screen to stage.

The cast has shrunk from about 50 to just four which gives Whitehead the chance to concentrate more on the play's theme, and the scenes which were filmed in Liverpool's dockland area for television are now exchanged for two sets, designed by Poppy Mitchell.

Ted Whitehead was born in Liverpool, educated at Christ's College, Cambridge, and had a variety of jobs including labouring, selling, teaching and advertising before becoming a full-time writer in 1971. He spent some time as writer-in-residence at the Royal Court Theatre. His other plays include *The Foursome*, *The Sea Anchor* and *Alpha Beta*. The last gave him his greatest commercial success when it was staged in 1972, starring Albert Finney and Rachel Roberts; it was later made into a film.

More recently he has worked on an adaptation of Strindberg's *The Dance of Death*, which opened at the Oxford Playhouse on February 1, and he is now completing a play called *A Conversation with the Blade*, taken from a fencing term, for H. M. Tennant; it is expected to be staged later this year.

Tom Bell has divided his time between the theatre, including *Travesties* for the Royal Shakespeare Company, films such as *The L-Shaped Room* and *Royal Flash*, and television, where he recently appeared in *Reilly Ace of Spies*. Lynn Farleigh has acted with the RSC and the National Theatre and her many television appearances include *Sex and Kinship*, again with Tom Bell.

Christopher Warman

The Man Who Fell in Love with his Wife previews at the Lyric Studio (741 2311) today at 8pm, and opens Mon at 7pm. Then Mon-Sat at 8pm until Mar 24.


Nobby Clark

Love at second sight: Lynn Farleigh and Tom Bell in Ted Whitehead's play

THE BIKO INQUEST
Riverside Studios (748 3354)
Until Mar 4, Tues-Sun at 8pm
This cool and scrupulously staged version of the investigation following the black South African leader Steve Biko's death in custody is the first fruit of a new British actors' company including Albert Finney (as the questioning counsel), Michael Gough, Michael Aldridge and Edward Hardwicke.

THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY
The Pit (628 8795/638 8891)
Today at 2pm and 7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm. In repertory with Lear by Edward Bond (Tues-Thurs at 7.30pm) and Tartuffe by Molière (Fri at 7.30pm)
Taking a rare Jacobean comedy as its starting point, Nicholas Wright's tale of innocent and fleshly love in turn-of-the-century Transvaal has a highly original flavour and provides Sara Kestelman and Sinead Cusack with two splendidly extravagant roles.

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS
Cottesloe (928 2252)
Today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory with Strider – The Story of a Horse by Mark Rozovsky (Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm)
David Mamet's menacing account of the shark-eat-sprat workd of US real estate salesmen has a resonance that spreads wide; a cast including Jack Shepherd and Tony Haygarth in top form.

HAY FEVER
Queen's (734 1166)
Until April 14, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Noël Coward's 1920s comedy about a theatrical family and their mixed bag of persecuted house guests remains hilarious after any number of revivals, and Penelope Keith takes to the leading lady's part as though to the bad manners born.

Critics' choice

MASTER CLASS
Old Vic (928 7617)
Final performances today at 4pm and 7.45pm. Transfers to Wyndham's Theatre (836 3028) from Tues, for a six-week season, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Stalin's 1948 pressure session with composers Prokofiev and Shostakovich gives David Pownall the setting for an alarming yet sometimes horribly funny drama, full of food for thought on art and politics and the relation between them. Timothy West's fearsome Stalin is a complex study on the grand scale.

MAYDAYS
Barbican (628 8795/8891)
Today at 2pm and 7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm. In repertory with Much Ado About Nothing and Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmund Rostand (Fri at 7.30pm)
Stretching from 1945 to the present, David Edgar's vast chronicle play probes the British Left's loss of direction and watches two characters changing political colour from red to blue. Long, often difficult and verbose for non-aficionados of socialist theory; but ambitious, complex and dramatically challenging at its best. With Antony Sher, John Sharpnel and Bob Peck.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Barbican (628 8795/638 8891)
Tues-Thurs at 7.30pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm. In repertory with Maydays and Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand (Fri at 7.30pm)
Absolutely not to be missed, Terry Hand's production is a sheer delight and the outstanding success of the Royal Shakespeare Company's current Barbican season. Derek Jacobi and Sinead Cusack make a Benedick and Beatrice of exceptional wit, intelligence and charm.

NIGHTSHADE
King's Head (226 1916)
Final performance today at 7.45pm (dinner from 6.45pm)
Stewart Parker's likable surreal comedy makes something funny, touching and intellectually rich from some highly original elements; the private sorrow of an undertaker who does conjuring tricks, a disappearing woman, a frustrated headmistress, a waggish bishop and a talking corpse. With Julian Curry and the drily outrageous Deborah Norton.

NOISES OFF
Savoy (836 8888)
Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
After two years in London, Michael Frayn's farce of backstage mishaps and misbehaviour during a ghastly rep-fodder sex comedy is still wildly funny. Amanda Barrie excels herself as the veteran character charlady and several newcomers make a bright showing in a production that gets slicker with each change of cast.

PACK OF LIES
Lyric (437 3686)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Hugh Whitemore's powerful study of a decent couple whose quiet suburban life is destroyed by a Kroger-style spy case. Judi Dench and Michael Williams find impressively tragic performances in the most humdrum surroundings.

RENTS
Lyric, Hammersmith (741 2311)
Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 7.45pm; matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm
First seen at Hammersmith two years ago, Michael Wilcox's play (now directed by William Gaskill) looks at part-time rent boys in Edinburgh and their friends, and finds material for a play full of understanding, charm and raw wit.

THE RIVALS
Olivier (928 2252)
Tues at 7.15pm, Wed at 2pm and 7.15pm. In repertory with Jean Seberg by Marvin Hamlisch, Christopher Adler, Julian Barry (today at 2pm and 7.15pm, Mon at 7.15pm) and Tales from Hollywood by Christopher Hampton (Thurs and Fri at 7.15pm)
Peter Wood's sparkling revival of Sheridan has Geraldine McEwan as a young but hilariously affected Mrs Malaprop, and Sir Michael Hordern gouty and irascible as Sir Anthony Absolute.

YOU CAN'T TAKE WITH YOU
Lyttleton (928 2252)
Fri at 7.45pm. In repertory with Master Harold . . . and the Boys by Athol Fugard (today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm)
Once again the National strikes gold in America, this time with Kaufman and Hart's endearing 1936 comedy about a family of happy eccentrics. Jimmy Jewell as the genial, drop-out grandpa, Geraldine McEwan as dotty, authoress mother, Gaye Brown as alcoholic actress and Margaret Courtenay as a Russian grandee turned waitress combine in a gloriously funny, subversive hymn to independence.

Out of Town

BELFAST: Lyric Players (0232 660081). Cider with Rosie by Laurie Lee. Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 8pm
Pleasing account of growing up in a farming community.

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory Theatre. (021 236 4455). One for the Road by Willy Russell. Preview today at 7.30pm. Opens Mon at 7.30pm. Until Mar 31, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm; Sat at 8pm: matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm
Willy Russell has revised and adapted his comedy and set it in Birmingham: housing estates, vandalism and growing into middle age.

BRIGHTON: Theatre Royal (0273 28488). Look, No Hans! by John Chapman and Michael Pertwee. Opens Mon at 7.45pm. Until Mar 3, Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm, Fri at 8.15pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinée Thurs at 2.30pm
Pre-West End run for a new comedy starring David Jason, Paul Rogers and Gabrielle Drake in the story of an unwilling, accident-prone secret agent.

BRISTOL: New Vic (0272 24388). A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen. Until Mar 10, Mon-Wed (not Mar 5) at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm
New production of an Ibsen play regarded by his contemporaries as subversive and still powerfully persuasive on the theme of personal fulfilment and determination.

CAMBRIDGE: Arts (0223 352000). Relative Strangers by Trevor Cowper. Final performances today at 4.30pm and 8pm
Rodney Bewes, Joanna Dunham, Ruth Mayo, Prunella Gee and Bruce Montague in a new play, en route for the West End. Charles Ross directs.
Marriage by Gogol. Opens Mon at 8pm. Until Mar 3, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinée Sat at 4.30pm
Shared Experience Company directed by Mike Alfreds in a farce set in Tsarist Russia.

COVENTRY: Belgrade (0203 20205). Brighton Rock by Frank Harvey from the novel by Graham Greene. Until Mar 10, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinée Wed at 2.30pm
Stephen Wyatt has revised Harvey's adaptation of Greene's thriller first performed on stage in 1943. Simon Dumore directs.

CROYDON: Ashcroft (688 9291) Steaming by Nell Dunn. Opens Mon at 7.45pm. Until Mar 3, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinée Wed at 2.30pm
Award-winning comedy, set in a municipal baths on ladies' day; now on tour. Anna Karen and Penelope Horner head the cast.

GUILDFORD: Yvonne Arnaud (0483 60191). The Aspern Papers by Michael Redgrave from Henry James. Until Mar 3, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8pm; matinée Thurs at 2.30pm
Wendy Hiller, Vanessa Redgrave, Christopher Reeve, directed by Frith Banbury. Transfers to the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, in March.

LEEDS: Playhouse (0532 442111). Trafford Tanzi by Claire Luckham. Until Mar 17, Wed-Sat at 7.30pm, Mon and Tues at 8pm
Chris Bond, director of the original West End production, is again in charge of this play which stages a literal battle of the sexes.

LEICESTER: Haymarket Studio (0533 539797). The Great Celestial Cow by Sue Townsend. Until Mar 3, Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm; Fri and Sat at 8.15pm
Based on research and workshops in Leicester's Asian community, this new play is the story of a girl's travels from Gujarat to Leicester. Directed by Carol Hayman, it is to tour before a season at the Royal Court. Presented by Joint Stock as their tenth-anniversary production.

MANCHESTER: Library (061 236 7110). Working Class Hero by Bob Mason. Until Mar 17, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
Northern premiere production of a play centred on the St Peter's Fields massacre of 1819, when a crowd of 60,000 unarmed men and women were forcibly dispersed by the yeoman cavalry. Howard Lloyd-Lewis directs a cast including Tracie Bennett, Michael Barrett, Keith Clifford, Cynthia Grenville.

MOLD: Theatr Clwyd (0352 55114). Faust (Part One) by Goethe. Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm
Resident company, directed by George Roman, in the classic drama of temptation and choice.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE: Theatre Royal (0632 322061). RSC Season. Twelfth Night. Final performances today at 2pm and 7.15pm
John Caird directs Daniel Massey, Emrys Jones, Gemma Jones, Zoë Wanamaker, Miles Anderson.
The Comedy of Errors. Tues-Fri at 7.15pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm. In repertory
Adrian Noble directs Paul Greenwood, Peter McEnery, Richard O'Callaghan, Jane Booker, Joseph O'Connor.
Gulbenkian Studio (0632 329974). Life's a Dream by Calderon de la Barca. Opens Mon at 7.15pm, Mon-Fri at 7.15pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm. In repertory
John Barton and Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of a seventeenth-century Spanish play, with Miles Anderson, Barbara Kellermann, Charles Kay.

OLDHAM: Coliseum (061 624 2829). Mary Hepton's Heaven by Glyn Hughes. Until Mar 3, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
The impact of Methodist preachers on the weavers of late-eighteenth-century Haworth. From Hughes's novel *Where I Used to Play on the Green*, adapted by the author.

PETERBOROUGH: Key (0733 52439). Jesus Christ Superstar by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. Until Mar 3, Wed-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri at 6pm and 9pm, Sat at 5pm and 8pm; matinées Wed and Thurs at 2.30pm
Tony Clayton directs a full-scale revival of this very popular rock musical.

WINDSOR: Theatre Royal (95 53888). A Sting in the Tale by Brian Clemens and Dennis Spooner. Until Mar 10, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4.45pm
Murder mystery by two popular television writers. Jack Douglas and Richard Kay head cast.

WYTHENSHAWE: Forum (061 437 9663). The Winslow Boy by Terence Rattigan. Until Mar 17, Tues-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm
Stephanie Turner, Allan Cuthbertson, Marius Goring, Ian Targett, directed by Jeremy Sinden in a Library Theatre Manchester production of this perenially popular drama.

WORTHING: Connaught (0903 35333). On Golden Pond by Ernest Thompson. Until Mar 3, Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 3pm
British stage premiere of the play about relationships across the generation gap.



Holding on: Ruth Mayo in Relative Strangers (Cambridge)

PREVIEW Galleries

Photography

EXPERIMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY
The Photogallery, Shepherd Street, St Leonards, East Sussex (0424 440140). Until Mar 17, Wed-Sat 11am-6pm.
Photographs from odd viewpoints, montage, abstract rayograms – old hat now, but innovatory in the period covered by this exhibition, the 1920s, when photography came to be considered as the proper creative instrument the new age. Work by Man Ray, Moholy-Nagy, Alexander Rodchenko and many others.

EUGENE ATGET: PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD FRANCE
Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 6075). Until Mar 25, daily 10am-5.30pm
Eugene Atget, who died in 1927, saw much of his work as merely reference from which painters could make art. His subject was often Paris, or as here, the Ile-de-France. He pointed his camera at whatever interested him and saw what he wanted to record with astonishing clarity. The legacy of his document is unsurpassed; quiet country lanes, sleepy villages, trees, vines crawling over ancient cottages, all taken at the turn of the century.

ANGUS McBEAN
National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (633 0880). Opens Mon. Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat 11am-10pm
Retrospective show for the doyen of theatre photographers, who combined theatre work with portraiture, where he employed the language of the surreal. The images, though often bizarre, are always inventive and laced with visual puns and humour. McBean's world is a stage-managed and refined place which is always striving to extol the virtue of beauty. A visual treat which is not to be missed.

PHOTOGRAPHERS AGAINST SUFFERING
Newcastle Media Workshops, Bell's Court, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle (0632 322410). Until Mar 3, Tues-Sat 10.30am-5pm
An exhibition of photographic prints which have been donated to Oxfam by many well-known photographers. All prints will be auctioned on March 3 at 1pm and the proceeds will go to support health projects in Central America. An opportunity to acquire photographs by Cartier-Bresson, James Jarche, Bert Hart, Humphrey Spender and many others.

CHRIS WAINWRIGHT
Stills Gallery, 58 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140). In two parts until March 17, Tues-Sat 12.30-6pm
Part 1, until Mar 2, shows how Wainwright arrived at his large composite photographs with sketches, diagrams and contact sheets. Part 2 exhibits the finished works, views of St Andrews Cathedral and of the quarry from which the cathedral stone was excavated. An overtly didactic show with overtones of Joseph Wright of Derby, a source which is freely acknowledged.

KARSH OF OTTAWA
National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (930 1552). Until Apr 8, Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Admission 50p, students and pensioners 25p
Seventy-fifth birthday show of portrait photographs by Yousuf Karsh, whose professed aim has been to capture greatness through the camera. The rich and famous, Karsh's staple fare, are never allowed to present anything other than their public faces in contrived and formal elegance. It is a formula that makes one feel that Karsh has only ever taken one photograph; however, his popularity endures.

THE BRIDGE
Impressions Gallery, 17 Colliergate, York (0904 54724). Until Mar 24, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm
New work by Victor Burgin, whose conceptual explorations continue to blur the distinction between art and photography. Here he takes as his starting point that moment in Hitchcock's *Vertigo* when Madeleine throws herself into San Francisco Bay. Burgin's relentless demands on the viewer make him one of the most difficult but sometimes most rewarding artists to come to terms with.



IMAGE OF THE WEEK: Portrait of his mother by Rodchenko, 1924 (see The Photogallery)

THE KESSLER BEQUEST
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (821 1313). Until Apr 29, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm
When Mrs A. F. Kessler died last year at the age of 93, she left the Tate Gallery one of the most important groups of nineteenth and twentieth-century foreign paintings it has received since the war. Her family were friends and patrons of Dufy, and the bequest includes four major paintings by him; also on show are a fine Degas pastel, two late Renoir oils, a Lautrec of a woman on horseback, and significant works by Picasso, Matisse and Modigliani.

JOHN HUBBARD
Fischer Fine Art, 30 King Street, St James's, London SW1 (839 3942). Until Mar 17, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm
The recent works of this American-born painter, long resident in England, continue the line of abstracted landscapes he has made peculiarly his own: large oils on canvas and smaller works on paper which evoke the feelings of light and space in Dorset or (this time) the area around Vaucluse, in delicate veils and flurries of exquisite colour. Also included are his designs for the Royal Ballet's *Midsummer* last year.

THREE BRITISH MUSEUM SHOWS
Paintings and Drawings Gallery, British Museum, London WC1 (636 1555). Until Apr 29, Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, 2.30-6pm
Etchings by Rembrandt depicting scenes from the Passion are shown with some of his more unusual etchings of contemporary characters in Amsterdam. Drawings by Claude Lorrain, Carraci and others reflect the influence of landscape on Italian schools of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. And an anonymous private collector has lent a selection of his German drawings, including works by Dürer, Baldung and Schonhauer.

THE CITY'S PICTURES
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (638 4141). Tues-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun noon-6pm
A semi-permanent display of painting and sculpture belonging to the Corporation of London is on show for the rest of the year. Many of the 70 or so works are well-known Pre-Raphaelite paintings, including Leighton's *The Music Lesson*, Holman Hunt's *The Eve of St Agnes* and Millais's *My First Sermon* and *My Second Sermon*. There is also a room of Matthew Smith oil-paintings and a selection of photogravures by Edward Curtis.

Critics' choice

DEREK JARMAN
ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (930 3647). Exhibition until March 18, Tues-Sun 12-9pm. Films and video until tomorrow, Wed-Sun 6.30pm and 8.30pm
One of the most versatile of modern British artists, Derek Jarman is a painter, theatre and film designer, writer and, most prominently of late, a film-maker. The ICA's representation of his work takes in his recent paintings and a broader spread of his work in films, including his own features *Sebastiane*, *Jubilee* and *The Tempest*, and various 16mm shorts, as well as videos and films just designed by him.

SHERRIFFS
Main and terrace foyers, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (928 2033). Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat 10am-11pm
Probably best remembered for his regular caricatures of film personalities in *Punch* between 1948 and his death in 1961, Robert Stewart Sherriffs first achieved fame in the 1920s when he illustrated a series of barbed impressions of current celebrities by Beverley Nichols in *The Sketch*. His crisp and economical line probably owed something to his early training as an heraldic artist, but his sense of character was all his own.

THE OMEGA WORKSHOPS
Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent Street, London SW1 (930 4811). Until Mar 18, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Anthony D'Offay, 9 and 23 Dering Street, London W1 (499 4695). Until Mar 6, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm
Two matching shows commemorate the Bloomsbury Group's largest single contribution to the visual arts in Britain. The artist-decorators involved were led by Roger Fry and included Duncan Grant, Vanessa Bell, Gaudier-Brzeska and Wyndham Lewis. Their highly coloured products included furnishing and decoration of all kinds, some of it now quaintly period and some amazingly modern.

TWENTIETH-CENTURY PORTRAITS
National Portrait Gallery, London WC2 (930 1552). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm
The National Portrait Gallery's new display of famous people who have contributed to the character and development of the past 80 years. They include William Roberts's double portrait of John Maynard Keynes and his wife Lydia Lopokova; Ben Nicholson's self-portrait with Barbara Hepworth; and Bryan Organ's portrait of the Prince of Wales.

LIGHT DIMENSIONS
Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (589 3456). Until Mar 4, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm
Exhibition on the evolution of holography, the creation by laser of three-dimensional images which enables objects to float in space. It was invented 36 years ago by Denis Gabor but only now is its potential starting to be realized. As well as having important commercial and industrial application, it may be said to constitute a new art form.

Theatre: Irving Wardle and Anthony Masters; Galleries: John Russell Taylor; Photography: Michael Young; Dance: John Percival

Dance

ROYAL BALLET
Covent Garden (240 1066). Tues, Thurs, Fri at 7.30pm
MacMillan s new *Different Drummer* is repeated Tues, when Lesley Collier (back from an injury) is due to dance *Song of the Earth*; *Afternoon of a Faun* completes the bill. Jay Jolley's first Colas should be the highlight of *La Fille mal gardée* (Thurs). Bryony Brind and Derek Deane head the cast of *Swan Lake* (Fri).

MANTIS
The Place (387 0031). Tonight at 8pm.
Woolwich Albany Empire (691 3333) Wed at 8pm.
Roehampton Institute, SW15 (876 2242). Thurs at 7.30pm
This ambitious small company is giving new works by Michael Clark, Matthew Hawkins and founder-director Micha Bergese.

BALLET RAMBERT
York, Royal (0904 23568). Today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.
Leicester, Haymarket (0533 539797). Tues to Mar 3 at 7.30pm, matinée Sat at 2.30pm
Christopher Bruce's new *Intimate Pages* is given tonight and Tues-Thurs; Robert North's new *Entre dos Aguas* also tonight and next Fri and Sat.

LONDON CONTEMPORARY
Liverpool Empire (051 709 1555). Tonight at 7.30pm.
Oxford, Apollo (0865 244544). Tues to Mar 3 at 7.30pm
Siobhan Davies's latest creation, *New Galileo*, is in the bill tonight and Thurs-Sat; Robert Cohan's *Common Land*, to Bach music, Tues and Wed. Oxford patrons have a special one-for-one offer of cut-price tickets for Extemporary Dance Theatre at the Playhouse, Mar 20-24.

SCOTTISH BALLET
Special week in Edinburgh, Mon to Mar 4
Aiming for new audiences, Scottish Ballet present *Divertimenti* at Belford Dance Centre, Douglas Gardens, Mon and Tues; a programme of new works by company members at the Little Lyceum, Wed and Thurs; *Turkish Delight* at the Traverse, Fri and Sat; and a gala Tribute to Anton Dolin and John Gilpin at the Royal Lyceum on Mar 4. All at 7.30pm.

KATHAK DANCE
Shaw (388 7727). Tomorrow at 7.30pm
As part of a World Arts Season, a company of dancers and singers from northern India perform one night only in London. Their tour, lasting from today until Mar 9, also takes in Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester, Nottingham, Coventry, Darlington and Bradford.

Kathak on tour: Dancer from northern India

PREVIEW Films

Heroes survive the silliness of the American circus

"Laurel and Hardy in space", snorted Senator John Glenn when shown an early draft script for *The Right Stuff*, a sumptuous, epic screen version of Tom Wolfe's best-selling novel about American space pioneers (Glenn included). Since becoming a front-line candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, Glenn's comments have been far more guarded ("No comment", for instance).

The film was launched in the United States last November, amid much ballyhoo (a gala premiere in Washington, constant coverage in the media), but the precise effect of John Glenn the movie astronaut on John Public, the voter, remains difficult to determine. Judging by the senator's poor showing in the Iowa caucus this week, the film has hardly helped him.

At all events *The Right Stuff*'s mingling of politics, Hollywood and the media – "The American circus at work", as writer-director Philip Kaufman called it in the magazine *American Film* – is particularly topical as the fanfare for the 1984 presidential elections gathers volume. But what exactly is the "right stuff" displayed by Glenn, Chuck Yeager, Alan Shepard, Gordon Cooper, Gus Grissom and the other pioneers? For Wolfe, it is that personal quality that make a person accept huge risks as routine, that makes one act heroically without actually being a hero.

In Kaufman's words: "They were heroes in spite of the media circus that followed the panic of Sputnik. The need to fabricate a public image actually endangered their heroic quality."

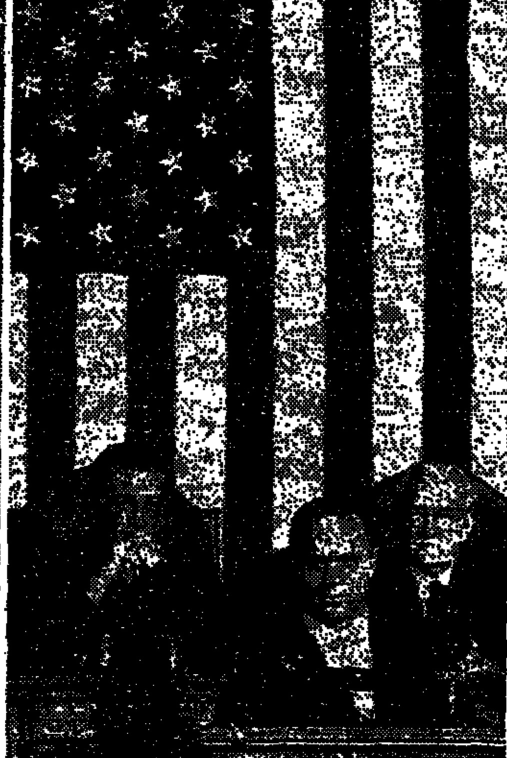
American institutions, such as NASA, were nevertheless happy to cooperate with research material and stock footage. Kaufman's team piled up 500,000 feet of pre-existing film, and matched old images to new material with a dexterity recalling Woody Allen's comedy *Zelig*. Kaufman also used the services of the experimental film-maker Jordan Belson, who furnished background plates depicting star-strewn skies and endless, unfathomable space.

Chuck Yeager, who broke the sound barrier in 1947, served as technical adviser. He also pops up in a cameo role, proffering another kind of "right stuff" – he plays a barman.

Geoff Brown

The Right Stuff (cert PG) opens in London on Fri at the Warner West End (439 0791) and ABC Fulham Road (370 2636).





A star is borne: Ed Harris plays John Glenn (left and centre right) in The Right Stuff

Critics' choice

THE BIG CHILL (15)
Cinecenta Panton Street (930 0631)
Classic Oxford Street (636 0310)
Odeon Kensington (602 6644)
Warner West End (439 0791)
American writer-director Lawrence Kasdan's second feature after the acclaimed thriller *Body Heat*. Former students from the 1960s gather at a funeral and survey the effects of time. A comic collage of human behaviour; with Tom Berenger, Glenn Close, Jeff Goldblum, William Hurt.

CAN SHE BAKE A CHERRY PIE? (15)
Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148)
A self-obsessed, divorced health addict meets a neurotic, abandoned wife on a Manhattan sidewalk; they enjoy a fraught romance. This could only be the work of director Henry Jaglom, the wayward American independent who struck comic gold with the low-budget, semi-improvised *Sitting Ducks*. A marvellous exploration of human relationships, true and tender, and radiantly droll.

FANNY AND ALEXANDER (15)
Chelsea Cinema (351 3742)
Ingmar Bergman's amazing evocation of life, joys and terrors, staged with exceptional opulence, beauty and lightness of touch. Traditional Bergman themes are deftly woven into the mixed fortunes of a Swedish family living early in the century.

FIRST NAME CARMEN (18)
Camden Plaza (485 2443)
Jean-Luc Godard takes elements from the Carmen story and the American gangster film genre and intercuts them with rehearsals of Beethoven quartets. As usual with Godard, it is a many-layered piece, easier to describe than to interpret. It won the Golden Lion at Venice but the critics have been less enthusiastic.

THE HONORARY CONSUL (18)
Classic Haymarket (839 1527)
Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148)
Studio Oxford Circus (437 3300)
Adaptation of Graham Greene's novel with Michael Caine both comic and touching as the disreputable and boozy title character and Richard Gere as Dr Plarr. Directed by John Mackenzie, with Bob Hoskins.

LIANNA (18)
Classic Chelsea (352 5096)
Cinecenta Panton Street (930 0631)
Screen on Baker Street (935 2772)
Screen on the Hill (435 3366)
A married woman drifts into a lesbian relationship with her night-school teacher – a situation presented by American writer-director John Sayles with tact, wit and clever use of modest resources. Marvellous lead performances from Linda Griffiths, Jane Hallaren and Jon DeVries.

REAR WINDOW (PG)
Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234)
One of Hitchcock's most audacious thrillers returns to public prominence after years in limbo. James Stewart stars as the photographer who locates a nasty murder in his telephoto lens while nursing a broken leg. Made in 1954, with Grace Kelly, Wendell Corey, Thelma Ritter, Raymond Burr.

RUMBLE FISH (18)
Lumiere (836 0691)
Francis Coppola's latest film defies all categories: a black and white fantasy about youthful hopes and alienation, shot with determined poetic intent and meshed with a riveting rhythmic score by Stewart Copeland (from the rock group The Police). Featured players Matt Dillon and Mickey Rourke effortlessly merge into the crazy fabric of shadows, scudding clouds and surreal compositions. Based on a novel by S. E. Hinton.

STAR 80 (18)
ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)
Classic Haymarket (839 1527)
Gate Bloomsbury (837 1177)
Bob Fosse's biography of a doomed *Playboy* pin-up and starlet, Dorothy Stratten, falls too promptly into unadulterated clichés, although the seedier side of show business is explored with relish. Eric Roberts (as the murderous husband) offers a striking portrait of unhinged mediocrity; Mariel Hemingway as the starlet copes well with a passive role.

STARSTRUCK (PG)
Gate Bloomsbury (837 1177/8402)
Cheerful, Australian, punk-tinged musical, bubbling with optimism, friendly characters and warm local atmosphere; a marked change of style for director Gillian Armstrong, best known for the pedigree charms of *My Brilliant Career*. Ross O'Donovan stars as the Sydney teenager determined to push his cousin (Jo Kennedy) into show business.

UNDER FIRE (15)
Leicester Square Theatre (930 5252)
Classic Chelsea (352 5096)
Odeon Kensington (602 6644)
Three journalists covering the Nicaraguan revolution in 1979 find their personal and professional allegiances pushed to breaking point. An old Hollywood plot rattles about in Roger Spottiswoode's thriller like old dried peas in a gleaming new pod. But the action is excitingly staged, and Spottiswoode finds good use for Nick Nolte's monolithic presence. Joanna Cassidy and Gene Hackman co-star.

VASSA (PG)
Academy 2, Oxford Street (437 5129)
Gleb Panfilov has considerably expanded Gorky's play about a matriarch who stops at nothing to preserve her family business. He moves the action to immediately before the First World War, makes the matriarch Vassa more acute and sophisticated and attempts a deeper analysis of the bourgeois class than Gorky did.

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

Sniffing behind the neon lights

Alexander Mackendrick, born in the United States but brought up in Glasgow, was one of several young directors who emerged at Ealing Studios during the great days under Sir Michael Balcon and he was arguably the most talented.

His films, which included *Whisky Galore*, *The Maggie*, *The Man in the White Suit* and *The Ladykillers*, were sharper and less comfortable than the run of Ealing comedies and displayed a more individual style. He was never content simply to amuse.

Compare the easy-going humour of *Passport to Pimlico* with *The Man in the White Suit*, which uses a comedy format to raise profound questions about the survival of a textile firm and its workforce when someone invents a fabric that will not wear out.

Even *The Ladykillers*, though whimsical enough on the surface with its sweet old lady and Jack Warner's Dixon-like copper, has its darker side and is completely different in tone from the amiable capers of Alec Guinness and Stanley Holloway in *The Lavender Hill Mob*.

After making *The Ladykillers*, Mackendrick left Ealing for the United States where in 1957 he directed his finest film, *Sweet Smell of Success* (showing on BBC1, Friday, 10.50pm-12-30am). This was very far from being a comedy and some observers saw an abrupt change of direction: to do so, however, was to misread Mackendrick's Ealing work.

Sweet Smell of Sucess takes a scathing look at the corruption of power and reveals a sour underside of the American dream. More successfully than John Schlesinger in *Midnight Cowboy*, which looks contrived by comparison, Mackendrick brilliantly captures that grubby segment of New York that lies behind the neon lights.

With a crackling script by Clifford Odets and Ernest Lehmann (based on Lehmann's novel), the film is about a vicious gossip columnist, played by Burt Lancaster, who makes use of a toadying press agent (Tony Curtis) to break up his sister's romance with a jazz musician.

The methods are uncompromising, involving bribery, smear campaigns, the planting of false evidence and reliance on a corrupt detective. The purpose is nothing less than the destruction of human lives in the most cynical manner. The title of the film is horribly ironic.

Films on TV

Always adept at handling actors, Mackendrick gets marvellous performances from his leading men. Lancaster has rarely been more effective, while for Curtis the film offered the first real opportunity for serious acting after years of being typecast as a muscular pin-up.

Sweet Smell of Success made little impact on either critics or the public when it was first released, but it now stands as one of the finest films made in, and about, America in the 1950s. Sadly, Mackendrick never approached its heights again.

A tough and uncompromising character who did not endear himself to the captains of the film industry, he managed to direct only three more films, spread over a period of 10 years, before taking up the post of dean of the film department at the California Institute of the Arts. His students' gain was the cinema's loss.

Peter Waymark

Also recommended

Rage in Heaven (1941): Effective star melodrama with Robert Montgomery plotting the death of his wife (Ingrid Bergman) to implicate her supposed lover (George Sanders) (Channel 4, today, 2.20-4pm).

The Iron Mask (1929): Douglas Fairbanks senior as Dumas's d'Artagnan, swashbuckling to the rescue of the prince of France; a specially tinted version with piano soundtrack (BBC2, today, 3.10-4.30pm).

The Mask of Dimitrios (1944): Peter Lorre and Sydney Greenstreet in an atmospheric rendering of Eric Ambler's thriller about the quest for a mysterious international criminal (Channel 4, today, 11.45pm-1.30am).

My Brilliant Career (1979)*: Gillian Armstrong's careful study of a young girl's ambition, set in the Australian outback at the turn of the century, which made a star of Judy Davis ((BBC2, tomorrow, 10.20-midnight).

Rancho Notorious (1952): Arthur Kennedy avenging his fiancée's murder in Fritz Lang's bizarre, claustrophobic Western, with a punchy performance from Marlene Dietrich (BBC2, Wed, 5.40-7.05pm).

The Four Just Men (1939): Hugh Sinclair, Griffith Jones and Francis L. Sullivan in a lively version of the Edgar Wallace thriller; directed by Walter Forde who died recently (Channel 4, Fri, 11.15pm-12.50am).

**First British television showing*



Smelling success: Mackendrick and Lancaster

PREVIEW Music

Concerts

83 HALLELUJAHS
Today, 7.30pm, Rosslyn Hill Chapel, Rosslyn Hill, London NW3 (340 8321)
Christopher Fox's *83 Hallelujahs* receives its world premiere from Singcircle. They also give the London premiere of a new version of Harvey's *Come*, and perform Belk's *At this Point* and Denis Smalley's *Pneuma*.

HAYDN'S BIRD
Today, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (935 2141, credit cards 930 9232)
On "classical" instruments the Fitzwilliam Quartet plays Haydn's Quartet Op 33 No 3 "The Bird". On modern instruments they offer Webern's Bagatelles Op 9, and Moray Welsh joins them as second cellist in Schubert's Quintet D 956.

TSAR SALTAN
Today, 7.30pm, St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (222 1061)
Conducted by Howard Williams, the Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra plays Rimsky-Korsakov's delightful *Tsar Saltan* Suite, Anne-Marie Owens sings in Ravel's still more exotic *Shéhérazade*. Elgar's Symphony No 2 makes a powerful conclusion.

BRENDEL SCHUBERT
Tomorrow, 3.15pm, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
Alfred Brendel interprets three major Schubert piano sonatas, the A minor D 784, the surpassingly lovely "Reliquie" D 840, and the last one, in B flat D 960.

LISZT RARITIES
Tomorrow, 3.30pm, Wigmore Hall
Winner of the Liszt Competition at Juilliard, Philip Thomson plays some little-heard items by that composer, including *Pensées des Mort* and *In Festo Transfigurationis*; also his *Deux Légendes*, *Nuages Gris* and *Funérailles*. He also performs Ravel's *Gaspard de la Nuit* and some Chopin.

AMICI/HORSLEY
Tomorrow, 6.30pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 (242 8032)
The Amici Quartet present Haydn's Quartet Op 77 No 2, the once-fashionable Arriaga's Quartet in E flat, and Colin Horsley joins them for Dvořák's Piano Quintet.

EARLY BRIDGE
Tomorrow, 7pm, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
Piers Lane and the London Lyric Quartet combine for Frank Bridge's unashamedly romantic Piano Quintet. They also play Mozart's Piano Quartet K 478 and Haydn's F minor Quartet Op 42.

LARCH TREES
Tomorrow, 7pm, Guildhall School of Music, Silk Street, London EC2 (082 582 348)
Malcolm Arnold's early *Larch Trees* are unearthed by the London Repertoire Orchestra under Ruth Gipps. Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto (soloist, Kuniko Nagata) and Richard Strauss's *Tod Und Verklärung* are included as well.

WONDERFUL WIDOW I
Mon, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall
Suoraan offer Cage's *Wonderful Widow*, Ives's *Take-Offs*, Finnissy's *Ives*, Nancarrow's Player-Piano Studies, Finnissy's *Nancarrow*, Skempton's *Gypsy Wife's Song* and a marvellous piece by Cornelius Cardew titled *Voice from Thel's Grave*.





Full programmes: Pinchas Zukermann (Tues, Festival Hall) and Piers Lane (Tomorrow, Purcell Room)

ENDELLION ANNIVERSARY
Mon, 7.30pm, Purcell Room
The Endellion Quartet celebrate their fifth anniversary by playing Haydn's Quartet Op 74 No 1, Beethoven's Quarter Op 95, but spoil things by including Britten's tedious Quartet No 2.

ARTEMON REGER
Tues, 7.30pm, St John's
The maligned Max Reger's delightfully summery Clarinet Quintet is placed by the Artemon Ensemble between Brahms's Piano Quintet and Schubert's "Trout" Quintet.

ZUKERMAN/NEIKRUG
Tues, 7.30pm, Festival Hall
Pinchas Zukerman and Marc Neikrug, a notable partnership, have put together a rather odd programme of violin and piano items, including a Romance by Saint-Saëns, Tchaikovsky's *Sérénade Mélancolique*, dances from Falla's *La Vida Breve*, Franck's Sonata, and a new piece, as yet unnamed, by Neikrug himself.

HUTCHISON/KEANEY
Tues, 7.30pm, Royal Scottish Academy of Music, St George's Place, Glasgow (041 332 4101)
At one and two pianos, Jean Hutchison and Jack Keaney play Debussy's *Epigraphes Antiques*, Stravinsky's Concerto, Schubert's F minor Fantasy D940, Rondo D 951 and Variations D 813.

BHAKTI
Tues, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
Spectrum give the UK premieres of Harvey's *Bhakti* and Xenakis's *Akanthos*. They also interpret the latter's *Dikhthas and Tetras*. Earlier, at 6.30pm in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Jonathan Harvey gives a talk about *Bhakti*.

OR SHALL WE DIE?
Tues, 7.45pm, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (628 8795, credit cards 638 8891)
The LSO and London Symphony Chorus with various soloists present Michael Berkely's *Or Shall We Die?* and Delius's beautiful *Songs of Farewell*.

SUMMER GRASSES
Wed 7.30pm, St John's
Lontano play Richard Hughes's bucolic-sounding *Summer Grasses*, Avril Anderson's *The Grass Harp* and Vores's Five Fantasias on Two Laments.

REMEMBERING ESENIN
Wed, 7.30pm, Purcell Room
Timothy Hugh and Iain Burnside perform Osborne's *Remembering Esenin* for cello and piano, Martinu's Rossini Variations, sonatas by Prokofiev and Schnittke, and Schumann's *Adagio and Allegro*.

WONDERFUL WIDOW II
Thurs, 1.15pm, St John's
Creep into the crypt for Lowri Blake (cello, voice) and Peter Buckoke (double bass) in Cage's *Wonderful Widow* and Dragonetti's Duo.

GWENNETH PRYOR
Thrs, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall
Gwenneth Pryor offers a varied programme including Mozart's Fantasy K 397, Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op 2 No 3, Chopin's Polonaise-Fantasy Op 61, some Debussy *Preludes* and *L'Isle Joyeuse*, and Prokofiev's Sonata No 3.

Opera

COVENT GARDEN
Tonight is the last chance to see Michael Hampe's production of Giordano's *Andrea Chénier* with José Carreras splendid in the title role, and Richard Armstrong conducting. In *La Bohème*, on Wed and next Sat, John Mauceri does Puccini proud in the pit, while Hungarian soprano Ilona Tokody can be heard again as *Mimi*. Dennis O'Neill has taken over as her Rodolfo. (240 1066)

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Three productions to choose from this week, with Elijah Moshinsky's new *Mastersingers of Nuremberg* (Tues and next Sat) towering over them all. He takes time and space to think through afresh Wagner's paradise lost and regained, ruled over by a quite outstanding Hans Sachs in Gwynne Howell. In a cast which includes Kenneth Woollam as Walther and Grahan Clark as David, Janice Cairns's Eva and Alan Opie's Beckmesser stand out. Where *Mastersingers* takes time to digest, *Patience* (tonight and Thurs) tickles the palate, with John Cox's 15-year-old production freshly polished, and with Derek Hammond-Stroud as an everlasting Bunthorne. Performances of another Coliseum revival, *The Barber of Seville*, fill out the week on Wed and Fri, with an engaging new cast led by Ann Murray and Donald Maxwell. (836 3161)

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
After *Valkyrie*, their second new production for Cardiff, Lehár's *Merry Widow*, directed by Andrei Serban, takes to the stage in John Street on Tues and Thurs. Gyorgy Fischer conducts a cast which includes Suzanne Murphy, Kate Flowers, Thomas Allen and Thomas Hemsley. On Wed, Göran Järvefelt's tried and tested *Magic Flute* returns to the repertoire. (0222 489977)

NEW SADLER'S WELLS
The season of operatta rolls on, with the return of Flotow's *Martha* on Mon, Wed and Fri, and in between, and far better value, with Christopher Renshaw's engaging new production of *The Gondoliers*. Well sung and acted by G and S hands old and new, it can be seen this afternoon and evening, on Tues and Thurs, and twice again next Sat. (278 8916)

OPERA 80
Now arrived at Stafford's Gatehouse Theatre (0785 54653), bringing their Japanese-style *Cosi fan tutte* tonight. On Mon and Tues they are at Peterborough's Key Theatre (0753 52439) for the new *Traviata* and then *Cosi*, and they end the week at Ipswich Corn Exchange (0473 215544)

LAST CHANCES
Tonight is the last opportunity to see two fringe productions: Spohr's rarely performed *Faust*, presented by University College Opera at the Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Street, London, WC1 (387 9629); and Opera Viva's *The Return of Ulysses* by Monteverdi, in the Westminster City School Theatre, Palace Street, SW1 (tickets on the door).

Films: David Robinson and Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams

Rock & Jazz

THOMPSON TWINS
Tonight, Brighton Centre; tomorrow, Colston Hall, Bristol; Tues, St Austell Coliseum; Wed, Poole Arts Centre; Fri to Mar 4, Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (748 4081)
Smash Hits gives their new album 2½ out of 10, which seems like hopelessly over-the-top enthusiasm to me.

MILLIE JACKSON
Tonight and tomorrow, Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (580 9562)
Two shows nightly round off a very successful visit; but what a pity that "I Feel Like Walking in the Rain" is not going to be a hit.

DOLLAR BRAND
Tonight, Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow; tomorrow, Aberdeen Arts Centre; Mon, Bonar Hall, Dundee
The greatest exponent of "townships jazz" plays telepathic duets with Carlos Ward, the hugely underrated Panamanian alto-saxophonist.

AL COHN
Tonight, Tues and Wed, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (439 8722)
Inventive, swinging, mainstream-modern tenor-saxophonist from the memorable vintage that also produced Getz, Sims, Allen Eager and Brew Moore.

THOMAS DOLBY
Tonight, Newcastle City Hall; tomorrow, Birmingham Odeon; Tues, Dominion, London W1; Wed, Rock City, Nottingham
Alone among contemporary synth-rock exponents, there is more to Dolby than meets the ear.

DUDU PUKWANA
Tonight, West End Arts Centre, Aldershot; tomorrow, Windsor Arts Centre; Mon, Dovecote Arts Centre, Stockton; Tues, York Arts Centre; Wed, Corner House, Newcastle; Fri, Band on the Wall, Manchester
The South African altoist, a veteran of Chris McGregor's Blue Notes and Brotherhood of Breath, takes Zila, his own rumbustious outfit, on tour.

TINA TURNER
Tonight, Lancaster University; tomorrow, Haven Theatre, Boston; Mon, Harrogate Conference Centre; Tues, Manchester Apollo
I am as pleased as anyone to see her back in the charts and storming the country, but can that version of "Help" just released as a single really be from the same woman who sang "It's Gonna Work Out Fine"? Peter Sellers's comic rendering had more soul.

JOHN CALE
Tomorrow, Lyceum Ballroom, Wellington Street, London WC2 (836 3715)
A swift return for the Welsh innovator and his new band, recipients of mild criticism from some quarters for their recent Venue show.

IMAGES OF BRAZIL
Mon to Sat, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (439 0747)
Brazilian guitarist John Zaradin leads a septet including two distinguished veterans of British modern jazz: the saxophonist Don Rendell and the tuned-percussion expert Bill LeSage. I'd settle for a new series of *Malu Mulher* from Channel 4, myself.

IAN DURY
Wed, Glasgow University; Thurs, Middlesbrough Town Hall; Fri, York University.
Some of the stuff on his new album is twee (most of all the songs about Blake and the Bomb), but "Really Glad You Came" and "Inspiration" are up there with his very best. The hardest job will be to reproduce the funky richness of Michael McEvoy's arrangements on stage.

TEDDY EDWARDS
Wed, Leadmill Arts Centre, Sheffield
A certified example of what they used to call a Boss Tenor, Edwards was formed in the bebop crucible of Los Angeles's Central Avenue in the 1940s alongside such future stars as Art Farmer and Hampton Hawes.

TED NUGENT
Wed, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6
If heavy-metal rock really is after all only a competition to see who can be the loudest and the coarsest under the pretence of making music, then America's Ted Nugent lapped the field years ago.

X
Thurs, Marquee Club, 90 Wardour Street, London W1 (437 6603)
When Hollywood caught on to the Sex Pistols a few years ago, X emerged as the West Coast's best attempt at assembling a punk quartet. Nowadays they are critics' darlings, although not this one's: the vocal harmonies of Exene Cervenka and John Doe remind me too clearly of *Surrealistic Pillow*. This is their British debut.

ACTUALITIES 2
Fri to Mar 4, The Place, 17 Dukes Road, London WC1
A three-night mini-festival celebrates the work of three outstanding British improvisers: Derek Bailey, Evan Parker and Barry Guy. Each has an evening to himself, beginning with Bailey, who leads a new four-man version of Company, which includes the gifted Dutch bassist Maarten Van Regteren Altena.

Entertainments

What's new on the GLC South Bank?

GLC South Bank Concert Halls, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX.
Tickets: 01-928 3191. Information: 01-928 3002.
BOX OFFICE opening hours: Monday to Saturday 10 am to 9 pm. Sundays 1.30 to 9 pm.
CREDIT CARDS 01-928 8800.

GROUP DISCOUNTS available for most Royal Festival and Queen Elizabeth Hall performances; details in monthly diary 'Music on the South Bank' or ring 01-928 3002.

STAND-BY SCHEME Unsold tickets (subject to availability) on sale at £2.00 for Royal Festival Hall and £1.50 for Queen Elizabeth Hall concerts to schoolchildren, students, unemployed and senior citizens. Telephone 01-633 0932. Available one hour before start of performance.

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GUIDED TOURS of the Royal Festival Hall. Daily at 12.45 pm and 5.30 pm. £1.00 per person. Reservations 01-928 3191. Credit Cards 01-928 8800.

GERARD GILLEN ORGAN RECITAL

Wednesday 29 February at 5.45 pm in a recital of works by Bach, Gigout, Guilmant. All seats £1.50 unreserved.

VICTOR JARA FESTIVAL

Mercedes Sosa, Angel & Isobel Parra, with special guests in a concert given as part of the GLC Anti-Racist Year. Royal Festival Hall: Friday 2 March at 7.30 pm. £4.40 £5.50 £6.50 £7.50. All others sold.

Saturday 25 Feb 7.30 pm	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA James Loughran (conductor) Igor Oistrakh (violin/viola) Emmy Verhey (violin) In Memoriam David Oistrakh (d.1974) Beethoven Symphony No.4, Mozart Sinfonia Concertante for vln & vla, K.364, Brahms Violin Concerto. Please note change of artists. £3, £6, £8, £10, £12 (only) — Van Walsum Management
Sunday 26 Feb 3.15 pm	ALFRED BRENDEL (piano) Schubert Sonata in C, D 840 (Reliquie) Schubert Sonata in A minor, D.784 Schubert Sonata in B flat, D.960 £2, £3, £4, £5.50 (only) — Ibbs & Tillett / Ingpen & Williams Ltd
Sunday 26 Feb 7.30 pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Philip Ledger (cond/hpschd) Antony Pay (clarinet) Jose-Luis Garcia (vln) Maciej Rakowski (vln) Paul Davies (flute) Bach Brandenburg Concerto No.5; Mozart Clarinet Conc; Bach Concerto in D min for 2 vlns, BWV 1043; Mozart Symph No.41 (Jupiter). £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 — Victor Hochhauser
Monday 27 Feb 7.30 pm	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Jesus Lopez-Cobos (conductor) John Lill (piano) Beethoven Overture, Leonora No.3, Beethoven Piano Concerto No.4; Beethoven Symphony No.5. £2.30, £3.60, £4.80, £6.20, £7.50, £8.50 — LPO Ltd
Tuesday 28 Feb 7.30 pm	PINCHAS ZUKERMAN (violin) MARC NEIKRUG (piano) Bach Sonata for violin and basso continuo in E minor, BWV 1023; Franck Violin Sonata in A; Neikrug 'Duo' (1st pf); Bach Partita in D minor, BWV 1004; Tchaikovsky Sérénade mélancolique, Op.26; Saint-Saëns Romance in D flat, Op.37; Falla Dance from La vida breve. £2.75, £4, £5.50, £7 (only) — Harold Holt Ltd
Wednesday 29 Feb 5.45 pm	SOUTH BANK ORGAN MUSIC Gerard Gillen (organ) Bach Concerto No.2 in A minor, BWV 593 Bach Six Schübler Chorales Gigout Scherzo; Guilmant Symphony No.1 in D minor. £1.50 unreserved — Greater London Council
Wednesday 29 Feb 7.30 pm	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Jesus Lopez-Cobos (conductor) Philip Fowke (piano) Rossini Overture, The Thieving Magpie; Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No.1, Bruckner Symphony No.4 (Romantic). £2.30, £3.60, £4.80, £6.20, £7.50, £8.50 — LPO Ltd
Thursday 1 March 7.30 pm	LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Simon Rattle (conductor) Alison Hargan (soprano) Willard White (bar) Poulenc Stabat Mater Walton Belshazzar's Feast £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50 (only) — London Choral Society
Friday 2 March 7.30 pm	VICTOR JARA FESTIVAL Angel & Isobel Parra with special guests to be announced £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 (only) — Greater London Council
Saturday 3 March 11.00 am	ROBERT MAYER CONCERT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BBC Symphony Orchestra Brian Wright (cond) *Malcolm Singer (cond) Berlioz Hungarian March; The Damnation of Faust; Holst Ballet Music, The Perfect Fool; *Malcolm Singer Making Music (1st pf); Ravel Bolero ALL SEATS SOLD FOR 1983/1984 SEASON — BBC
Saturday 3 March 7.30 pm	AN EVENING OF RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN Edmund Hockridge, Rosemary Ashe, London Concert 'Pops' Orchestra, Harry Rabinowitz (conductor). The unforgettable music of Oklahoma, Carousel, The King and I, The Sound of Music, South Pacific, State Fair, etc. Please note change of conductor. £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 — Raymond Gubbay Ltd
Sunday 4 March 3.15 pm	VIENNESE CONCERT New Symphony Orchestra Vilem Tausky (cond) The Blue Danube Dancers J. Strauss II Entrance March, The Gypsy Baron; Emperor Waltz, Cuckoo Polka, Waltz, The Blue Danube, Radetzky March; Eduard Strauss Bahn Frei Polka, Waldteufel Skaters Waltz etc. £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 — Victor Hochhauser
Sunday 4 March 7.30 pm	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Sir Georg Solti (conductor) Prokofiev Symphony No.1 (Classical) Bartók Music for strings, percussion and celesta Tchaikovsky Symphony No.4 £2.30, £3.60, £4.80, £6.20, £7.50, £8.50 — LPO Ltd
Monday 5 March 7.30 pm	YOUNG MUSICIANS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Young Musicians Chamber Orchestra Philharmonia Chorus Wandsworth School Choir James Blair (conductor) Alison Hargan (sop) Keith Lewis (ten) David Wilson-Johnson (bar) Britten War Requiem There will be no interval during this performance. £2, £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50 — Y.M.S.O. Society
Tuesday 6 March 7.30 pm	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Jesus Lopez-Cobos (conductor) Cho-Liang Lin (violin) Mendelssohn Incidental Music, A Midsummer Night's Dream; Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor; Brahms Serenade No.1 in D £2.30, £3.60, £4.80, £6.20, £7.50, £8.50 — LPO Ltd
Wednesday 7 March 5.45 pm	SOUTH BANK ORGAN MUSIC Jonathan Rennert (organ) Bach Pastorale in F, BWV 590; Harwood Sonata No.1 in C sharp minor, Op.5; Bach Prelude and Fugue in G, BWV 541, Dupré Tryptique, Op.47. £1.50 unreserved — Greater London Council
Wednesday 7 March 7.30 pm	LONDON MOZART PLAYERS Harry Blech (conductor) James Watson (trumpet) Claude Frank (piano) Mozart Symphony No.38 (Prague), Haydn Trumpet Concerto in E flat; Beethoven Piano Concerto No.5 (Emperor). £2, £3, £4, £5, £6, £7 — Haydn-Mozart Society
Thursday 8 March 7.30 pm	KLAUS WUNDERLICH IN CONCERT £3.00, £4.00, £5.00, £6.00 — Kennedy Street Enterprises
Friday 9 March 7.30 pm	BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Günther Herbig (conductor) Erich Gruenberg (violin) Stravinsky Fireworks; Stravinsky Violin Concerto in D; Shostakovich Symphony No.4 £1.00, £2.50, £4.50, £6.50, £8.50 — BBC

THE MUSIC BOX

Saturday 25 February: Brian White's Jazzband New Orleans Jazz.
Sunday 26 February: Steve Melling Quartet Original compositions by Steve Melling and Rick Taylor.
Friday 2 March: Acoustic Alchemy Blues/Flamenco/Reggae.

EXHIBITIONS

Exploring Living Memory (Until 4 March). A Woodland Year (Until 28 February). Musicians (Until 12 March). Serge Lifar Collection (2–11 March).

Queen Elizabeth Hall.

FROM MAO TO MOZART (U)

Isaac Stern in China with David Golub. Academy Award for Best Documentary 1981. "Hugely entertaining, full of drama, breathtaking scenery, glorious music and sheer fun!" Produced and directed by Murray Lerner. Queen Elizabeth Hall: 27 February at 7.45 pm. All seats £2.50.

Saturday 25 Feb 7.45 pm	CITY OF LONDON CHOIR London Bach Orchestra Donald Cashmore, Helen Kucharek, Marion Olsen, Philip Salmon, Laurence Wallington, John Birch. Mozart Te Deum, K.141, Church Sonata, K.263, Missa Brevis, K.275, Handel Chandos Anthem No.9, Mozart Solemn Vesper... — City of London Choir
Sunday 26 Feb 3.00 pm	TINDERBOX 10TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT The London SRP Recorder Orchestra Nance Winklemann, David Moses, David Ramm, Friedemann Witecka. A concert for children 5–11: music by Satie, Strauss, Gurrachi and stories. The Tinderbox, The Billy goats Gruff and the Three Jolly Tailors. £1.50, £2, £2.50, £3, £3.50 — Tinderbox
Sunday 26 Feb 7.15 pm	CARLOS BARBOSA-LIMA (solo guitar) £1.50, £2.50, £3.00, £4.00, £5.00 — Stentor Music Co Ltd
Monday 27 Feb 10 am to 5 pm	NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC FOR YOUTH The first of 25 nationwide auditions sponsored by W.H. Smith. Twenty ensembles from London and the Home Counties: Orchestras, wind bands, jazz bands, steel bands, chamber groups and choir. Admission free — Music for Youth
Monday 27 Feb 7.45 pm	FROM MAO TO MOZART (U) (film) Academy Award for Best Documentary 1981 Isaac Stern in China with David Golub "Hugely entertaining, full of drama, breathtaking scenery, glorious music and sheer fun" Produced and directed by Murray Lerner. ALL SEATS £2.50 — Distributed by Enterprise Pictures
Tuesday 28 Feb 7.45 pm	SPECTRUM Guy Protheroe (conductor) Arditti String Quartet Claude Helffer (pno) Jonathan Harvey, Boulez, Berg, Dutilleux, Ferneyhough. Jonathan Harvey will give a pre-concert talk in the QEH at 6.30 pm. — Ann Manly Productions Ltd
Wednesday 29 Feb 7.45 pm	GERAINT JONES ORCHESTRA Royal Academy of Music Chamber Choir Geraint Jones (cond/hpschd) Sheila Armstrong, Helen Watts, Neil Mackie, Thomas Hemsley. 21st Anniversary Concert Handel Zadok the Priest; Bach Harpsichord Concerto, BWV 1056, C.P.E. Bach Magnificat in D. — Kirckman Concert Society
Thursday 1 March 7.45 pm	GWENNETH PRYOR (piano) Mozart Fantasia in D minor, K.397, Beethoven Sonata in C, Op.2 No.3, Chopin Polonaise-Fantaisie in A flat, Op.61, Debussy Six Préludes, Debussy L'Isle joyeuse, Prokofiev Sonata No.3 in A minor — Roger Stone Management
Friday 2 March 7.45 pm	NORTHERN SINFONIA David Zinman (conductor) Ida Haendel (violin) Mozart Symphony No.34, Schoenberg Verklärte Nacht; Beethoven Violin Concerto. — Northern Sinfonia Concert Society Ltd
Saturday 3 March 7.45 pm	JOHN BATE CHOIR & ORCHESTRA John Bate (conductor) Ann Mackay (soprano) Christopher Royall (counter-tenor) Geoffrey Pogson (tenor) Jonathan Roberts (bass) Beethoven Symphony No.2 Haydn Harmoniemesse — John Bate Choir
Sunday 4 March 3.00 pm	CLEVELAND QUARTET Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich (piano) Dvorak Evening Songs (Cypresses) Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor, Op.34 Beethoven Quartet in C sharp minor, Op.131 — Ingpen & Williams Ltd
Sunday 4 March 7.15 pm	MEZZOFORTE This concert has now been CANCELLED. — John Leonard Promotions

Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Monday 5 March 7.45 pm	LONDON SOLOISTS CHAMBER CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA David Josefowitz (conductor) Bronwen Mills (soprano) Christopher Gillett (tenor) Philip Doghan (tenor) Michael Pearce (bass) Handel Acis and Galatea £1.50, £2.50, £3.00, £4.00, £5.00 — London Soloists Chamber Orchestra
Tuesday 6 March 7.45 pm	BBC NORTHERN SINGERS Stephen Wilkinson (conductor) Keith Swallow (piano) Schumann Genlage, Op.141; Papillons; Cornelius Choral Songs, Op.18; Maconchy Creatures; Bridge Capriccio in A min, V. Williams Silence & Music; Holst This have I done; Stanford The Blue Bird, etc. £2, £3, £4, £5, £6 — BBC
Wednesday 7 March 7.45 pm	ALEXANDER BAILLIE (cello) PIERS LANE (piano) Beethoven Sonata in A, Op.69; Kodály Sonata for solo cello, Op.8. Rachmaninov Sonata in G minor, Op 19. (Please note change of pianist) £2.00, £2.50, £3.00, £3.50 — Basil Goddard
Thursday 8 March 7.45 pm	NEW MOZART ORCHESTRA Clive Fairbairn (conductor) Sebastian Bell (flute) Rolf Wilson (violin) J. S. Bach Air from Suite No.3, Suite No.2; Purcell Chaconne in G minor; Vivaldi Spring (The Four Seasons); C.P.E. Bach Flute Concerto in A; Mozart Divertimento, K.137. £2.00, £3.00, £3.75, £4.75, £5.50 — New Mozart Orchestra
Friday 9 March 7.45 pm	BERTICE AND FRIENDS Bertice Reading June & Jean Millington and surprise guests in concert This concert in celebration of International Women's Day replaces the programme originally advertised under this title. £3.00, £4.00 — Greater London Council

Purcell Room.

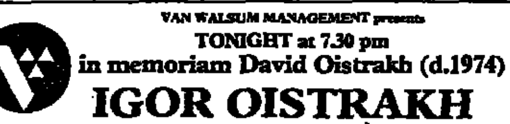
Saturday 25 Feb 7.30 pm	LONDON HARPSICHORD ENSEMBLE Sarah Francis (director) Handel Trio Sonata in B flat for ob, vln & cont; Bach Trio Sonata for fl, vln & cont; Telemann Trio Sonata & Quartet in G. Vivaldi Conc (The Goldfinch) for fl, ob, vln, cello & hpschd; Bach French Ste No.5 in G for hpschd solo. £2.50, £3.50 (only) — Jane Gray
Sunday 26 Feb 3.15 pm	GERARD AND JEAN Gerard Benson (storyteller) Jean Phillips (piano) A Family Concert The programme includes: 'East of the Sun and West of the Moon', a Scandinavian tale with music by Grieg; 'A Trunk Full of Elephants'; 'The Three Pigs', etc. £1.75 — Gerard Benson
Sunday 26 Feb 7.00 pm	LONDON LYRIC QUARTET PIERS LANE (piano) Haydn Quartet in D minor, Op.42 Mozart Piano Quartet in G minor, K.478 Bridge Piano Quintet £3.00, £3.50 — London Lyric Orchestra
Monday 27 Feb 7.30 pm	ENDELLION STRING QUARTET Haydn Quartet in C, Op.74 No.1 Britten Quartet in C, Op.36 No.2 Beethoven Quartet in F minor, Op.95 (Serioso) £2.00, £2.50 — Kirckman Concert Society Ltd
Tuesday 28 Feb 7.30 pm	SAMUEL DILWORTH-LESLIE (piano) 60 years after ... Gabriel Fauré: The Complete Works for Piano Ballade, Op.19; Nocturne No.6, Op.63, Impromptu No.2, Op.31; Barcarolle No.5, Op.66; Impromptu No.1, Op.25; Nine Preludes, Op.103; Valse-caprice No.1 in A, Op.30. £1.50, £2.50, £3.50 — Helen Jennings Concert Agency
Wednesday 29 Feb 7.30 pm	TIMOTHY HUGH (cello) IAIN BURNSIDE (piano) Prokofiev Sonata in C, Op.119; Chopin Sonata, Op.65; Osborne Remembering Esenin; Martinů Variations on a Theme of Rossini. £2.00, £3.00, £4.00 — United Kingdom Music Associates
Thursday 1 March 7.30 pm	SUSAN BAKER (pochettes/viols/vla d'amore, mandore, phonofiddle, etc) Antony Saunders (piano/spinet) Violins, Fiddles and Follies Susan Baker presents her working museum of rare and eccentric string instruments with music by Marini, Dowland, Paganini, Beethoven, Mozart and others. £2.50 — Susan Baker
Friday 2 March 7.30 pm	ANNE DE BUCK (harpsichord) François Couperin Ordre No.2 in D minor Ordre No.6 in B flat Ordre No.5 in A £2.00, £3.00, £4.00 — Vineyard Productions



ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

VAN WALSUM MANAGEMENT presents

TONIGHT at 7.30 pm



IGOR OISTRAKH

violin & viola

London Philharmonic Orchestra JAMES LOUGHRAN

BRAHMS: VIOLIN CONCERTO

and MOZART: Sinfonia Concertante in E flat with EMMY VERHEY violin
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No.4 in B flat
Please note changes of artists
£3, £6, £8, £10, £12 (only)
from Hall (01-928 3191) Credit Cards (01-928 6544) & Agents
Sponsored by British Printing & Communication Corporation PLC

TOMORROW at 3.15 pm
Ingpen and Williams Ltd. presents

ALFRED BRENDEL

SCHUBERT RECITAL
For details see South Bank panel

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL



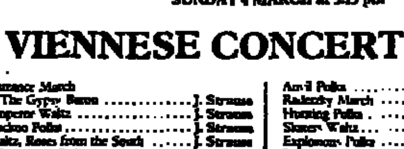
TOMORROW at 7.30 pm

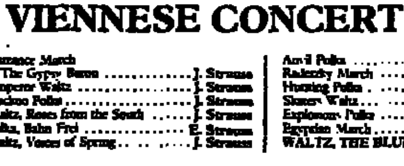
BACH MOZART

BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No.5 in D
MOZART: Clarinet Concerto in A
BACH: Concerto in D minor for Two Violins
MOZART: Symphony No.41 in C (Jupiter)

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Conducting/harpsichord: Philip Ledger
Clarinet: Antony Pay
Violins: Jose-Luis Garcia, Maciej Rakowski
Flute: Paul Davies

SUNDAY 4 MARCH at 3.15 pm





VIENNESE CONCERT

Entrance March The Gypsy Baron	J. Strauss	Anvil Polka	J. Strauss
Emperor Waltz	J. Strauss	Radetzky March	J. Strauss
Cuckoo Polka	J. Strauss	Hunting Polka	J. Strauss
Waltz, Roses from the South	J. Strauss	Skaters Waltz	Waldteufel
Polka, Bahn Frei	E. Strauss	Explosions Polka	J. Strauss
Waltz, Voices of Spring	J. Strauss	Egyptian March	J. Strauss
		WALTZ, THE BLUE DANUBE	J. Strauss

NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Conductor: VILEM TAUSKY
THE BLUE DANUBE DANCERS
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50
from Hall (01-928 3191) Credit Cards (01-928 6544)



HAROLD HOLT LIMITED presents
TUESDAY NEXT 28 FEBRUARY at 7.30 pm

PINCHAS ZUKERMAN

with MARC NEIKRUG piano

BACH, FRANCK, TCHAIKOVSKY SAINT-SAENS, DE FALLA and
British Premiere of new Neikrug work
£2.75, £4, £5.50, £7 from Hall 01-928 3191 Credit Cards (01-928 6544) & Agents

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents — SATURDAY 3 MARCH at 7.30 pm

An Evening of

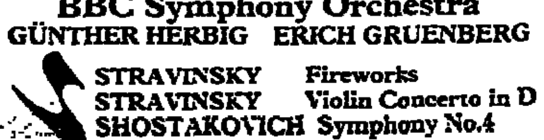
Rodgers & Hammerstein

The unforgettable music of Oklahoma, Carousel, The King and I, The Sound of Music, South Pacific, State Fair, etc.
EDMUND HOCKRIDGE ROSEMARY ASHE
LONDON CONCERT 'POPS' ORCHESTRA & SINGERS
Conducted by HARRY RABINOWITZ
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50
from Hall (01-928 3191) Credit Cards (01-928 6544) & Agents

Friday 9 March at 7.30

BBC Symphony Orchestra

GÜNTHER HERBIG ERICH GRUENBERG



STRAVINSKY Fireworks
STRAVINSKY Violin Concerto in D
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No.4

£1, £2.50, £4.50, £6.50, £8.50 Box Office 01-928 3191 Credit Cards 01-928 6544

MONDAY 12 MARCH at 7.30 pm

ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY

Conductor: MEREDITH DAVIES

Bach: ST. JOHN PASSION

Kate Flowers Paul Esswood
Robert Tear Kenneth Bowen
Ian Caddy Stephen Roberts
Please note change of artist

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
1983/1984 SEASON SPONSORED BY WHITBREAD
£3.60, £4.80, £6.50, £7.20, £8.50 only
from Hall (01-928 3191) Credit Cards (01-928 6544) & Agents

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents — SATURDAY 24 MARCH at 7.30 pm

Return visit by the legendary Viennese Maestro

WILLI BOSKOVSKY

only UK appearance this Season
Conducting the LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
In a programme of music by the Strauss Family etc.
£5, £6, £7, £8.50, £10 from Hall (01-928 3191) Credit Cards (01-928 6544) & Agents

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

QEH, THURSDAY NEXT 1 MARCH at 7.45
A piano recital of works by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy & Prokofiev

GWENNETH PRYOR

'one of the finest pianists of her generation performing in this country' Daily Telegraph

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli
In Association with TOSHIBA

MAHLER, STRAUSS and their influence

SIMON RATTLE

conductor

Monday 2 April at 7.45
Queen Elizabeth Hall
A showing of Ken Russell's film
"MAHLER"

Tuesday 3 April at 7.30
Royal Festival Hall
ELISE ROSS
Wagner: Prelude to Tristan & Isolde
Berg: Wozzeck Fragments
Mahler: Symphony No.1

Wednesday 4 April at 7.30
Purcell Room
HANS KELLER gives a talk
"Mahler and Strauss: Their Creative Characters"

Thursday 5 April at 7.30
Royal Festival Hall
JANET BAKER
John Chambers Andrew Shulman
Berg: Lulu Suite
Mahler: Kindertotenlieder
Strauss: Don Quixote

Sunday 8 April at 7.15
Queen Elizabeth Hall
ALFREDA HODGSON THOMAS ALLEN
Webern: Five Pieces for Orchestra
Strauss: Symphony for Winds (1945) in F
Mahler: Des Knaben Wunderhorn (complete)

Wednesday 11 April at 7.30
Royal Festival Hall
ALISON HARGAN FLORENCE QUIVAR
Philharmonia Chorus
Webern: Passacaglia
Schoenberg: Five Pieces for Orchestra
Mahler: Symphony No.2 (Resurrection)

Sunday 15 April at 7.15
Queen Elizabeth Hall
FLORENCE QUIVAR
Strauss: Prelude & Dance Scene from Ariadne auf Naxos
Mahler: Ruckert Lieder
Schoenberg: Accompaniment to an Imaginary Film Scene
Strauss: Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme

Thursday 19 April at 7.30
Royal Festival Hall
FLORENCE QUIVAR JOHN MITCHINSON
Webern: Six Pieces for Orchestra
Berg: Seven Early songs
Mahler: Das Lied von der Erde

BOOKING OPENS ON MARCH 2ND

Tickets:	
April 3, 5, 11 & 19	£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50
April 8 & 15	£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50
April 2	All seats £2.50
April 4	All seats £1.50

Available from Royal Festival Hall Box Office, London SE1 8XX (01-928 3191) Credit Card Booking (01-928 6544) and agents

Wigmore Hall

Manager: William Lyne
Tickets from Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St., W.1.
Tel: Box office 01-935 2141 Credit cards 01-930 9232 Mailing list £1.80 year
Arts Council of Great Britain

Tonight 25 Feb 7.30 pm	FITZWILLIAM STRING QUARTET Moray Welsh cello Haydn: Quartet in C Op.33 No.3 "The Bird" (played on classical inst.) Webern: Six Bagatelles Op.9; Schubert: String Quintet in C D956. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Wigmore Master Concerts
Tomorrow 26 Feb 3.30 pm	PHILIP THOMSON piano Scarlatti: Sonatas in C Kk132/133; Chopin: Waltz Op.18, Nocturne Op.48/1, Ballade Op.52; Ravel: Gaspard de la Nuit; Schumann/Liszt: Widmung; Wks by Liszt. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Shirley Barr
Tomorrow 26 Feb 7.30 pm	TURIBIO SANTOS guitar Sor: Largo; Malbrough Vars. Tarrega: 3 Mazurkas, Estudio brillante; Bach: 4 Pieces; Pernambuco: Trois Choros; Gnattali: Brasiliana No.3 (world prem); Santoro: 2 Preludes. £4, £3.20, £2.50, £2 — Helen Jennings Concert Agency
Monday 27 Feb 7.30 pm	SUORAAN Michael Finnissy dir/pno Songs by John Cage & Cornelius Cardew; Finnissy: Ives, Nancarrow; Ives: 5 Take-Offs; new wks: Richard Barrett & Howard Skempton; Nancarrow: Player Piano Studies. £3.50 — New Macnaghten Concerts
Tuesday 28 Feb 7.30 pm	MLADI ENSEMBLE Michael Collins dir Anthony Goldstone pno Beethoven: Piano Quintet Op.16; Barber: Summer Music; Ligeti: 10 pieces; Berio: Opus Number Zoo; Poulenc: Sextet for pno & wind; Janáček: Mládí. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Clarion Concert Agency
Wednesday 29 Feb 7.30 pm	BERNARD ROBERTS pno SUSAN MILAN fl DELME QUARTET Late Beethoven 2 of 4 2 Waltzes, Ecossaise in E flat, 3 klavierstücke, Vars. for fl & pno Op 105/5, 6 Op 107/1,2; String Qt Op.130 with both finales, Grosse Fuge followed by 2nd finale. £5, £4.50, £3.50, £2.50
Thursday 1 Mar 7.30 pm	NIGEL ROGERS ten RICHARD BURNETT fortepiano The Development of the Lied A prog. of songs by CPE Bach, Haydn, Beethoven & Schubert with their contemporaries inc. settings of Goethe. £4, £3.20, £2.50, £2 — Early Music & Bar. Series/Early Music Network
Friday 2 Mar 7.30 pm	LUCY SHELTON soprano LAMBERT ORKIS piano THEA KING clarinet Dvořák: Gypsy Songs; Schubert: 5 Songs, Shepherd on the Rock; Messiaen: Poèmes pour Mi; Ives: 6 Songs. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Grapevine Concert Mgt
Saturday 3 Mar 7.30 pm	VIA NOVA QUARTET Chausson: Quartet in C min Op 35, Ravel: Quartet in F (1902), Beethoven: Quartet in E min Op.59 No.2 "Rasumovsky". £3, £3.20, £2.50, £2 — French Series
Sunday 4 Mar 3.30 pm	YOKO B-KATAYAMA piano Chopin: Polonaise-Fantaisie Op.61, Sonata in B min Op.35; Debussy: Estampes; Ravel: Le Tombeau de Couperin. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Sylvia Junge Management
Sunday 4 Mar 7.30 pm	MANUEL BARRUECO guitar Scarlatti: 5 Sonatas; Sor: Fantaisie élégiaque Op 59, Giuliani: 6 Vars sur les folies d'Espagne, Op.45, Gonzalez: A light impressed in a memory; Henze: 3 Tientos; Albéniz: Suite española Op 47. £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2 — Basil Douglas Ltd
Monday 5 Mar 7.30 pm	SHERRY KLOSS violin GERALD ROBBINS piano Beethoven: Sonata in D Op 12/1, Strauss: Sonata in E flat Op 18, Scott: Tallahassee Suite, Bach/Heifetz: Prelude from Partita in E wks. by Dvořák/Kreisler, Hubay & Wieniawski. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Jane Gray
Tuesday 6 Mar 7.30 pm	JOSEPH CORNWELL, ANDREW KING tens ANTHONY ROOLEY lute/theorbo Italian & English vocal duets of 17th C Monteverdi to Purcell inc wks by Monteverdi, Henry & William Lawes, Locke, Blow & Purcell. £4, £3.20, £2.50, £2 — Early Music & Bar. Series/Francesca McManus
Wednesday 7 Mar 7.30 pm	EMMA KIRKBY, EVELYN TUBB sops ANTHONY ROOLEY lute/theorbo Italian & English vocal duets of 17th C +2 inc wks by Monteverdi, Notari, Frescobaldi, Henry Lawes, Locke, Blow & Purcell. £4, £3.20, £2.50, £2 — Early Music & Bar. Series/Francesca McManus
Thursday 8 Mar 7.30 pm	VLADIMIR PLESHAKOV piano Chausson: Quelques danses; Dukas: La plainte au loin du Faune; Vars. Interlude et Finale on a theme of Rameau, Roussel: Sonatine Op.16; Beethoven: Sonata Op 101; wks by Chopin & Liszt. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — French Series/Chareau Mgt
Friday 9 Mar 7.30 pm	VARSOVIA STRING QUARTET Mozart: Quartet in G K.387, Szymanowski: Quartet No.2 Op.56; Tchaikovsky: Quartet No.2 in F Op.22. £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80 — Clarion Concert Agency

Thirty-seventh

Aldeburgh Festival

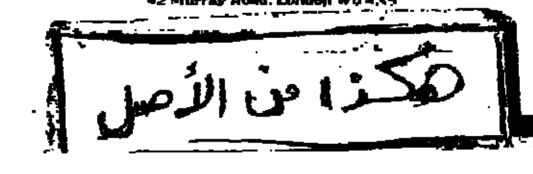
of Music and the Arts
8-24 June

Full details of events, special mid-week packages with local hotels and Festival Train are available: send a stamped addressed envelope to: Aldeburgh Foundation, High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5AX. Box Office Aldeburgh (072 885) 3543.

Mon 27th February, St George's, Hanover Sq, W1. 7pm (near Oxford Circus)

HANDEL:
JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN

Gillian Fisher, Charles Brett, Ian Partridge, David Thomas. London Handel Choir & Orchestra / Denys Darlow. £5.00, £3.50, £2.00 (unreserved)
Tel: 560 6396 or at the door on the day. For details of the series and of the LONDON HANDEL FESTIVAL (28 Apr - 5 May) send sae to Administrator, 42 Murray Road, London W5 4XS



St John's Smith Square

London SW1P 3HA Director: Joanna Brendon
Box Office 01-222 1061 Mon-Fri 11am-6pm and from 6pm at each concert

Tonight 25 Feb 7.30 pm	ERNEST READ SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Howard Williams cond. Anne-Marie Owens mezzo-soprano. Rimsky-Korsakov Suite: Tsar Saltan Ravel: Shéhérazade. Elgar: Symphony No.2 in E flat. £3, £2 (unreserved) — Ernest Read Music Association
Tuesday 28 Feb 7.30 pm	ARTEMON ENSEMBLE. Josef Aronoff & Cecily Mendelssohn vlns. Jacquelyne Leonard viola, Gary Williams cello, Michael Lea dbl. bass, Stephen Bennett clar., Joyce Riddell pno Mozart: Piano Quartet K.493; Reger: Clarinet Quintet; Schubert: Piano Quintet (Trout) £4, £3, £2 — Berwyn Prom
Wednesday 29 Feb 7.30 pm	LONTANO. Odaline de la Martinez dir. Mary King mezzo-sop. Avril Anderson: The Grass Harp. Richard Hughes: Summer Grasses. Erika Fox: new work. Andrew Vores: Five Fantasms on Two Laments. Judith Weir: Several Concertos 1st London Performance. £3 (SPNM Members £1.50) — S.P.N.M.
Thursday 1 Mch 1.15 pm	Lunchtime recital in the crypt. LOWRI BLAKE cello/voice. PETER BUCKOKE double bass. Dragonetti: Duo for cello and bass. Betty Roe: Jazz Songs. Cage: The wonderful Widow for Eighteen Springs. Pleyel: Theme and Variations. £1 from 11 am — The Friends of St. John's
Thursday 1 Mch 7.30 pm	ORCHESTRA DA CAMERA. Kenneth Page conductor. Mary King mezzo-soprano. Haydn: Symphony No.47 in G. Handel: Dramatic Scena Lucrezia. Kokkonen: Metamorphosis, for 12 solo strings and harpsichord (1st Lon. Perf). Haydn: Symphony No.43 in E flat (Mercury). £4.50, £3.50, £3, £2 — Orchestra da Camera Ltd.
Saturday 3 Mch 7.30 pm	LONDON CHARITY CONCERT ORCHESTRA. Ferenc Dieszl conductor. Simon Fischer violin. Suppé: Overture: Poet and Peasant. Saint-Saëns: Violin Concerto No.2 in C. Kalinnikov: Symphony No.1 (1895). In aid of The Developmental Centre for Dyslexic Children. £6.50, £5, £4, £3.50, £2.75, £2 — Allied Irish Banks
Thursday 8 Mch 7.30 pm	ENDYMION ENSEMBLE. Birtwistle 50th Birthday Tribute — Concert 2. John Whitfield dir. Penelope Walmsley-Clark sop. Lutoslawski: Dance Preludes. Henze: Being Beauteous; Quattro Fantasie. Varèse: Octandre. Birtwistle: Monody for Corpus Christi; Tombeau (in memoriam Igor Stravinsky). £3.50, £3, £2.50, £1.80
Friday 9 Mch 7.30 pm	THE NEW MACNAGHTEN CONCERTS. The fifth concert in the series Transatlantic Connections in which the composers Vilhao's and Autree with visual artist Monteverde present new works for tape and computer-controlled multiple slide projection, incl the premiere of Vilhao's Hendrix Haze. £3.50, £2

BARBICAN HALL

Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS
01-638 8891/01-628 8795
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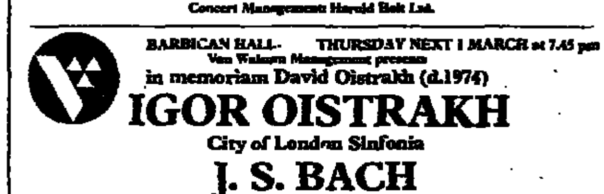
Saturday Feb 25 7.45pm	HALLE ORCHESTRA. Stanislaw Skrowaczewski (cond) Alexis Weissenberg (piano). Elgar: Introduction and Allegro for strings. Beethoven: Piano Concerto No 4. Sibelius: Symphony No 2. £8, £6.50, £5. Sponsored by Martini & Rossi.
Tuesday Feb 28 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. London Symphony Chorus. Richard Hickox (cond) Heather Harper (soprano) Sally Burgess (soprano) David Wilson-Johnson (baritone). Delius: Songs of Sunset. Berkeley: Or Shall We die?. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50. Sponsored by The Delius Trust.
Wednesday Feb 29 1.00pm	MITSUKO UCHIDA. Piano Recital. International Lunchtime Concerts. Mozart: Sonata No 12 in F, K332; Sonata No 1 in C, K279; Sonata No 17 in D, K576. All seats £2.50.
Wednesday Feb 29 7.45pm	RICHARD RODNEY BENNETT AND FRIENDS. English Chamber Orchestra. Marian Montgomery. Barry Wordsworth (cond) Richard Rodney Bennett: Serenade; Group of Songs; Prelude and Waltz from 'Murder on the Orient Express'. Songs by George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Harold Arlen, Stephen Sondheim and Jerome Kern; Music from 'Far from the Madding Crowd'. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50.
Thursday March 1 7.45pm	IGOR AND VALERY OISTRAKH. In Memoriam, David Oistrakh (d 1974). BACH: Violin Concerti Nos 1 & 2. Concerto for Two Violins. Handel: Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 1. Elgar: Serenade 'Elegy'. £8, £6.50, £5, £3.50.
Friday March 2 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Beethoven Evening. Bramwell Tovey (cond) Andrew Haigh (piano). Beethoven: Overture 'Egmont'; Piano Concerto No 5 'Emperor'; Overture 'Leonora No 3'; Symphony No 7. £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50, £3.50. Victor Hochhauser.
Saturday March 3 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. London Symphony Chorus. Richard Hickox (cond). Robert Cohen (cello). Borodin: Polovtsian Dances. Tchaikovsky: Rococo Variations. Holst: The Planets. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50. Sponsored by Peter Stuyvesant.
Sunday March 4 8.00pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Per Dreier (cond) Daniel Adni (piano). Berlioz: Le Carnaval Romain. Dukas: The Sorcerer's Apprentice. Rachmaninov: Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini. Dvořák: Symphony No 9 'From the New World'. £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50, £3.50. R Gubbay Ltd.
Tuesday March 6 7.45pm	ILEA LONDON SCHOOLS STEEL ORCHESTRA. The popular ILEA London Schools Steel Orchestra is joined by four steel bands from London Schools. £2, £1.
Wednesday March 7 7.45pm	LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA. Edward Heath (cond). Felix Schmidt (cello). Mozart: Overture 'The Marriage of Figaro'; Eine kleine Nachtmusik. Tchaikovsky: Rococo Variations. Beethoven: Symphony No 8. £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50, £3.50. Raymond Gubbay Ltd.
Thursday March 8 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Ivan Fischer (cond). Jorge Bolet (piano). Schubert: Symphony No 8 'Unfinished'. Liszt: Hungarian Fantasy; Totentanz. Dvořák: Symphony No 8. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50. In association with British Airways.
Friday March 9 1.00pm	JOHANN STRAUSS ORCHESTRA. Directed from the violin by Jack Rothstein. Popular music from the Strauss family including Tritsch-Tratsch Polka, Artists' Life Waltz, Roses from the South Waltz, Radetzky March, Blue Danube Waltz. All seats £1.50. Raymond Gubbay Ltd.
Friday March 9 8.00pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Sir Charles Groves (cond). Cristina Ortiz (piano). Mozart: Overture 'Don Giovanni'. Handel: Suite 'Water Music'. Grieg: Piano Concerto. Beethoven: Symphony No 6 'Pastoral'. £8, £6.50, £5, £3. Raymond Gubbay Ltd.

TONIGHT at 7.45 pm

HALLE ORCHESTRA

Stanislaw
SKROWACZEWSKI
(first London concert as principal conductor elect)
Soloist ALEXIS WEISSENBERG

ELGAR: Introduction and Allegro
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No.4 in G
SIBELIUS: Symphony No.2 in D



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BARBICAN HALL — THURSDAY NEXT 1 MARCH at 7.45 pm
Van Walsum Management presents
in memoriam David Oistrakh (d.1974)

IGOR OISTRAKH

City of London Sinfonia

J. S. BACH

Violin Concerti in E major and A minor
Concerto for 2 violins in D minor
with EMMY VERHEY violin
ELGAR Elegy; Serenade HANDEL Conc. Grosso Op.6/1
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LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA in association with VICTOR HOCHHAUSER present at the BARBICAN
FRIDAY 2 MARCH at 7.45 pm

BEETHOVEN

Overture, Egmont Piano Concerto No.5 (Emperor)
Overture, Leonora No.3 Symphony No.7

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Bramwell Tovey Soloist: Andrew Haigh
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50
from Box Office (01-628 8795) Credit Cards (01-638 8891)



RAYMOND GUBBAY presents at the BARBICAN
SUNDAY 4 MARCH at 8 pm

Berlioz ..... OV. 'LE CARNAVAL ROMAIN'
Dukas .... SORCERER'S APPRENTICE
Rachmaninov ...... PAGANINI RHAPSODY
Dvorak .... 'NEW WORLD' SYMPHONY

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: PER DREIER DANIEL ADNI piano
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50

WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH at 7.45 pm

EDWARD HEATH

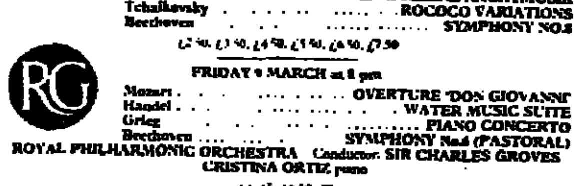
conducts
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
FELIX SCHMIDT

Mozart ... OVERTURE 'THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO'
Mozart ... EINE KLEINE NACHTMUSIK
Tchaikovsky ... ROCOCO VARIATIONS
Beethoven ... SYMPHONY NO.8
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50

FRIDAY 9 MARCH at 8 pm

Mozart ... OVERTURE 'DON GIOVANNI'
Handel ... WATER MUSIC SUITE
Grieg ... PIANO CONCERTO
Beethoven ... SYMPHONY No.6 (PASTORAL)

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Conductor: SIR CHARLES GROVES
CRISTINA ORTIZ piano
£3, £5, £6.50, £8
Box Office (01-628 8795) Credit Cards (01-638 8891)



The Royal Opera House in association with Scott Concert Promotions Ltd., presents a

COVENT GARDEN CELEBRITY CONCERT

Tomorrow at 8pm

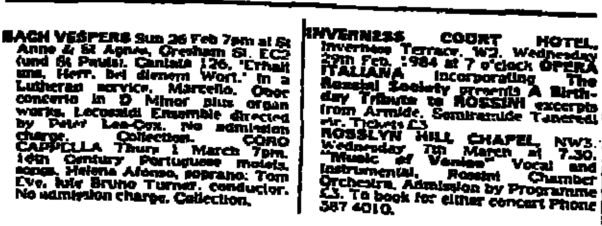
GWYNETH JONES

Soprano

Geoffrey Parsons

Piano

Lieder by Schubert, Mahler, Brahms and Richard Strauss
Tickets: £4-£12.50
Box Office: 01-240 1066/1911. Access/Visa welcome



BACH VESPERS Sun 26 Feb 7pm at St Anne & St Agnes, Gresham St, EC2 (and St Pauls). Cantata 126, 'Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort,' in a Lutheran service. Marcello, Oboe concerto in D Minor plus organ works. Locossini Ensemble directed by Peter Lea-Cox. No admission charge. Collection. CORO CAPPELLA Thurs 1 March 7pm. 16th Century Portuguese motets, songs. Helena Afonso, soprano; Tom Eve, lute Bruno Turner, conductor. No admission charge. Collection.

INVERNESS COURT HOTEL, Inverness Terrace, W2. Wednesday 29th Feb, 1984 at 7 o'clock OPERA ITALIANA incorporating The Rossini Society presents A Birthday Tribute to ROSSINI excerpts from Armide, Semiramide Tancredi etc. Tickets £3. ROSSLYN HILL CHAPEL, NW3. Wednesday 7th March at 7.30. "Music of Venice" Vocal and Instrumental, Rossini Chamber Orchestra. Admission by Programme £3. To book for either concert Phone 387 4010.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA, Barbican, EC2Y 8DT. Piano Master classes with OPEN DISCUSSION will be given by EDITH VOGEL on Wednesdays 7 and 14 March, 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Further information may be obtained from the General Administrator.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 836 3161 cc 240 5258
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Ton't, Thur 7.30 PATIENCE. Tues 5.00 (please note early start) MASTERSINGERS OF NUREMBERG (hot suppers avail). Wed, Fri 7.30 THE BARBER OF SEVILLE. Some seats avail at doors each day.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN 240 1066/1911. 10am-8pm (Mon-Sat). Access/Visa. S. 65 amphi seats avail for all perfs (Mon-Sat) from 10am on the day.

THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't at 7.30pm, Andrea Chenier (new production). Wed at 7.30pm, La Bohème.

CELEBRITY CONCERT
Tomor at 8.00pm with Gwyneth Jones.

THE ROYAL BALLET
Tues at 7.30pm, Afternoon of a Faun/Different Drummer (New MacMillan Ballet) Song of the Earth. Thur at 7.30pm, La Fille mal gardée. Fri at 7.30pm, Swan Lake.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1 01-278 8916 (5 lines). CC. 24 hr Recorded info 01-278 5450. Grp Sales 01-930 6123. The Wells' Stagecoach: Before & after-show bus Service – Phone B.O. for details. NEW SADLER'S WELLS OPERA in rep until 10 March Eves 7.30 Sat Mat 2.30. Today & Tues: The Gondoliers. Mon Martha.

THEATRES

ALBERY 836 3878 cc 379 6565. 930 9232. Grp bkgs 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6.00 & 8.40. Thurs mat 3.00.
DINSDALE LANDEN NICKY HENSON JENNIFER HILARY JILL BAKER in
SUFFICIENT CARBOHYDRATE by DENNIS POTTER
"Ruthless and enjoyable comedy acted by a 24-carat cast" S. Times. "THE VERY STUFF OF THEATRE" D. Mail. "A masterly performance by Dinsdale Landen" Hobson, TLS.

ALDWYCH 836 6404, 379 6233. Eves 7.30. Mat Wed 3.0, Sat 4.0, 6. 7.45.
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BLONDEL starring PAUL NICHOLAS
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Feb 27 to March 3
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LEONARD ROSSITER GEMMA CRAVEN
LOOT
THE FARCE BY JOE ORTON DIRECTED BY JONATHAN LYNN

APOLLO VICTORIA 828 8665 cc 834 6177 Party Bookings 828 6188. Grp Sales 930 6123
The New Musical
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Choreography ARLENE PHILLIPS Directed by TREVOR NUNN
ARRIVES HERE ON MARCH 27th. PREVIEW TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE ON 19th, 20th, 21st, 23rd, 24th (mat) 26th March
Eves 8.0. Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 & 8.0
BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN 10am-8pm

APOLLO (Shafts Ave) S CC 437 2663 Mon-Fri 8.0 Sat 5.30, 8.30. Thur 3. Grp 930 6123.
HANNAH GORDON "A Masterful Portrayal" D. Mail
MARTIN SHAW "An electric performance" Gdn
JOHN STRIDE "Mesmerising" Times
THE COUNTRY GIRL
"This great and powerful play" Punch "Gloriously brought to life" D. Mail "Magnificent" N.o.W.

ASHCROFT Croydon 01-688 9291 cc 01-680 5955. 27 Feb. to 3 March. Steaming by Nell Dunn Comedy of the Year SWET awards.

ASHCROFT Croydon 01-688 9291 cc 01-680 5955 Until 25 February CAMBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY presents ... A witty play by Frederick Lonsdale

[illegible]

ENTERTAINMENTS

Family Life

Far beyond the valley of the doll's houses



"Do you collect anything?" said my son conversationally to the friend who was giving us a lift. "Yes, parking tickets. I've got 47 in my office drawer. Pretty impressive, eh?" he laughed. My son grinned politely: "No, I mean when you were young..." "Oh that. Yes, I collected stamps – or rather I pretended to – got bored, didn't have the patience... and marbles. I've got bags of them somewhere. Want them?"

I kicked my friend smartly on the shin, but need not have bothered. "Thanks, but not really", said my son. "But I know someone who would. He's quite old, one of my mum's friends and he loves marbles." "Got a lot, has he?" said my friend, turning a quzzical eye in my direction. "Yes, thousands", I said.

The conversation set me thinking about those of my friends who collect things. There's the one whose clocks are worth rather more than the Georgian house in which he lives; another whose cribbage boards would not be out of place in an antique dealer's shop; a third who spends more on the furnishings of her numerous doll's houses than she ever does on those in her own home.

These are collectors proper – people who will travel miles to an auction, scour the personal columns of newspapers, take endless detours in search of particular shops, all in pursuit of another item to add to their collections.

Similar to the collectors, but lacking their dedication and all-consuming enthusiam, are the hoarders, of whom I am reluctantly one. In my attic are stores of what I call memories and others call junk. Every year at about this time I determine to sort them out, but the piles get no smaller.

There is the box containing my (better) school exercise books which I kept in the mistaken belief that they might one day be of some use to my children. There's the suitcase crammed with dolls in various states of disarray.

Finishing models needs an uncommon virtue

Oh, the dolls! The other day I walked into my study to be confronted by all the faces that I had variously loved, hated, cuddled or battered staring accusingly down at me from a high shelf. Their names came back as fresh as on christening days – Rosie, Annabel, Bobby, Rupert, Blue Eyes, Topsy – and the years rolled back. "Please take them down", I said. "But they're a collection", replied my beloved. "There are some lovely dolls there, why not show them? Or give them away?"

Why not indeed? *Some* little girl, as one's mother was fond of saying, would appreciate them. My son came to the rescue. "She wants to know they're there, that's all", he said philosophically.

It obviously wasn't hard for him to interpret a look that said "and you can talk, with a bedroom overflowing with half-finished collections of Dinky toys, Star Wars figures, comics. "What about that model aeroplane you were making?" said the man of the house accusingly. "I'll finish it some time", came the reply. We all knew this was untrue.

For one thing, finishing it requires patience, a virtue not too common among children; for another, it needs a certain dexterity that 10 still slightly chubby fingers, though willing and unusually agile, could not quite muster; and thirdly, and most important perhaps, the moment has passed.

Model aeroplanes were last year, as were the pebbles and sea shells, grubbed from a cold Atlantic beach, which never did look quite the same washed up in an urban sink; the stamps cut off some envelopes and stuffed into others, collected because they were pretty and hinted at exotic places; the wild flowers and grasses culled in a bracken wood which shed their pollen all over the car but never found their way between paper leaves.

It is unfair to moan at one's children because none of their acquisitions has formed the basis of a collection: it was the collecting that mattered, the moment. Yet it seems to be part of the parent's lot either to throw out those memories, unbidden, or sometimes to continue where the child left off. (Which of us hasn't at some time found ourselves scrubbing the sea shells, finishing the Meccano, or stitching up Action Man's torn safari suit – and often silently enjoying ourselves in the process?)

Not all my collector friends can give rational explanations of why they had started and kept up their collections. The doll's house owner, for example, said her obsession infuriated her. "Perhaps it is because as a child I always wanted a proper doll's house and never had one – or because I can design and manipulate the miniature in a way that I never could in real life. Whatever it is, it fulfils some kind of need. It's having and holding something that is entirely one's own. As a child I had the interest but neither the money nor the know-how. This is a kind of compensation."

I know exactly what she means, which is why I shall try not to nag about all the neglected heaps that litter my house. One of them just may be the start of a collection.

Judy Froshaug

In a fix in The Secret of Nimh (see Outings, right)

Outings

FESTIVAL OF BRASS RUBBING
Westminster Abbey, London SW1. Today 9 am-5 pm. Adults £1.50, children 50p
Today is the last day in which you or the children may for a small fee make one medium or several small brass rubbings at the abbey. The necessary materials will be supplied.

TINDERBOX TENTH BIRTHDAY CONCERT
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London, SE1, (928 3641). Tomorrow, 3 pm. Tickets £1.50 – £3.50.
The popular company celebrates 10 years of entertaining children with music and stories from all over the globe at this concert, presented by David Moses.

THE SECRET OF NIMH
Junior NFT, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3842). Tomorrow, 4 pm. Adults £2.20, children £1.10.
A film based on Robert C. O'Brien's prize-winning story about a super-intelligent colony of rats. It was made by breakaway artists from the Disney studios and the animation reflects this. Thrill-a-minute stuff, directed by Don Bluth with Dolby stereo voices including those of Derek Jacobi and Hermione Baddeley.

VINTAGE CARS AND BICYCLES
Nostell Priory, Wakefield, West Yorkshire. Mar 3 at 3pm; previewing Fri 10am-7pm. Admission by catalogue, £1.75
From the 1915 Maxwell 18/22hp and 1909 Sears Highwheeler Buggy to the penny farthings and twentieth century Peugeot Freres child's bicyle, Sotheby's sale of veteran and vintage cars, bicycles and automobilia will be fascinating to anyone who loves old vehicles. Even if you cannot afford to bid viewing alone should be fun.

PUBLIC OPENING OF THE COLLEGE OF ARMS
College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4 (248 2762). Mon-Fri 10am-4pm. Free
Children wishing to know what the college is and what goes on there may now find out. The Earl Marshal's Court is open as above; the Record Room has to be seen by special advance arrangement with the Registrar.

THE TRICKS THAT WENT WRONG
Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 (980 2415). Until Nov 30, Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. Free
Just opened, an exhibition of paintings from the book *The Tricks That Went Wrong* by Phillida Gili (Andre Deutsch, £3.95) which is based on the collection of children's costumes housed in the museum. All the garments used and many of the original drawings and proofs are on display.

Bridge

Failure at prize-giving spoils success in exams

Bobby Franses and Jack Albuquerque won the Bank of Dubai Pairs by a wide margin from a field of 225 pairs, competing in three different cities. When they asked what the prize was, surprisingly the answer was not immediately forthcoming. No matter, the waiting would only enhance the expectation. Could it be a cruise, a krugerrand or perhaps a holiday in a land full of eastern promise?

The reality was as exciting as a buff envelope from the Inland Revenue: £35 each in vouchers. Since they had paid £9 each in entry fees, the reward would have done credit to Scrooge at his most miserly.

"Never mind, Bobby", I said. "It is a tribute to your skill that you should receive odds of less than 3-1 in a field of 225."

When anyone complains of the smallness of the prizes, a section of the English Bridge Union is ready with its stock answer: "Bridge is an amateur game, not designed for the acquisitive few."

In my experience, bridge players do not play duplicate for gain. Were they so foolish, they would be repeatedly disenchanted. Nevertheless, prizes for sponsored competitive events ought to be a fair reflection of the skill and effort required to win them, and the sooner the EBU recognizes this and withholds its support from events where the prizes are derisory, the better the prospects of attracting new adherents to the game.

If I am sternly critical of the EBU's policy on prizes, I am full of praise for its Teachers' Association. Many have contributed to the association's success, none more so than its secretary, Rhoda Lederer. Every year the association holds exams to determine the candidates' fitness to teach bridge. As Rhoda Lederer rightly says: "Being a good bridge player is by no means synonymous with being a good teacher".

The exams consist of a written paper and an oral test, to weed out those who may know the syllabus but are incapable of imparting their knowledge. In bridge, as with most games, sound groundwork is invaluable. Instructors who are ignorant of their subject or incapable of explaining it properly do more harm than good, which makes the association's work even more commendable.

Reasonable ways to plan the play

Here are two problems posed in last summer's Silver level test.

A. You are South, the declarer is three no trumps, whith no opposition bidding.

North: ♠ 8 ♡ K732 ◇ AK10765 ♣ A4

South: ♠ AJ9 ♡ A54 ◇ Q9 ♣ QJ753

West leads the ♠3, East plays the ♠Q.
1 How do you plan the play?
2 Give brief reasons.

B. You are South, declarer is in four spades, with no opposition bidding.

North: ♠ Q982 ♡ KJ2 ◇ K84 ♣ Q43

South: ♠ AKJ53 ♡ A5 ◇ A73 ♣ J52

West leads the ◇Q, to which East follows. The trumps are split 2-2.
1 How do you plan the play?
2 Give brief reasons.

A. 1 Win the ♠A. Cross to the ♡K and play a diamond, finessing the ◇9.
2 Declarer only needs five diamond tricks to fulfil his contract. He must place the accent on safety and prevent East from obtaining the lead and returning a spade. To ensure his contract, declarer must be prepared to lose an unnecessary but insignificant trick to West.

B. 1 Win the diamond in hand. Draw two rounds of trumps. Play three rounds of hearts, ruffing in hand. Cash the ◇K, and exit with a diamond.
2 Declarer faces four potential losers, a diamond and three clubs. Provided the defence is forced to open up the clubs, the Jxx opposite Qxx will ensure one trick. The elimination accomplishes this.

Incidentally the proviso that the trumps break 2-2 is unnecessary; the recommended line is equally effective if the trumps are 3-1. I do not "know" the answers, but if my solutions are wrong, I expect someone will tell me soon enough.

In addition to the exams for the Silver and Gold level certificates, the Teachers' Association offers a course outlining the special technique which any aspiring teacher should acquire. For details, contact: Mrs Rhoda Lederer, 5 Ellis Avenue, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 9UA.

Jeremy Flint

Chess

International all-play-alls

International tournaments are a comparatively recent arrival on the chess scene, although the game has been in existence for fifteen hundred years. The first international tournament, staged in London in 1851, was held on the knockout system and the first all-play-all international would appear to have been London 1862 (it was won by Adolf Anderssen, two points ahead of Louis Paulsen.)

The latter event contained 14 players, a not unusual number nowadays, as witness the great series of chess tournaments jointly sponsored by Phillips & Drew and the Greater London Council. But, as the nineteenth century drew on, these tournaments became enormous events including an average of about 22 players, many of whom were genuine grandmasters. For example, Nuremburg 1883, won by Winawer, had 22 players and the same number took part at Hastings in 1895.

The appetite for such tournaments grew in the early 1900s but after the First World War tournaments thinned out, reaching a low with the Hastings series which had only 10 players.

A development after the Second World War was the rise of the great interzonal tournaments. They were used as a sort of eliminatory process for world championship events, and I well remember playing in a tough interzonal event in Stockholm in 1952 that contained 22 players.

Nowadays the normal highest total of players is 16. The one interesting exception is the First Lady's Cup International tournament. The first of these was held in Indonesia two years ago and had 26 players, 20 of whom were grandmasters. It was an event of which the nineteenth century would have been proud, as it would also have been of the second one which contained 22 players and was held from November 11 to December 13 last year, partly in Jakarta, then in Jogjakarta and finally in Bali.

Seventeen of the 22 players were grandmasters, making this a very strong tournament. It was won most deservedly by the young Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman, who won 11 games, drew nine and lost only one to the US grandmaster Henley. Timman scored 15½ points; second was the great Hungarian player Lajos Portisch, with 14; followed by Yussupov (USSR) 13½; Andersson (Sweden), Ljubojevic (Yugoslavia) and Seirawan (USA) 13; Romanishin (USSR) 12½; Henley (USA) and Torre (Philippines) 11½; Adorjan (Hungary), Gunawan (Indonesia) and Kurajica (Yugoslavia) 11; Lobron (West Germany) and Schmidt (Poland) 10½; Tarjan (USA) 10; Ardiansjah (Indonesia) and Kovacevic (Yugoslavia) 8½; Radulov (Bulgaria) 8; Adianto and Handoko (Indonesia) 7; Hulak (Yugoslavia) 6½; and Miolo (Indonesia) 4.

A brevity from the Indonesian tournament in which the Philippine grandmaster Eugenio Torre is given a lesson in the manual arts of dexterity by a certain Handoko.

White: Torre. Black: Edhi Handoko. Petroff Defence.

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-KB3 N-KB3
3 NxP P-Q3 4 N-KB3 NxP
5 P-Q4

The safest and indeed the best line for White here is 5 Q-K2.

5 .... P-Q4 6 B-Q3 B-K2
7 O-O B-KN5 8 R-K1 N-QB3
9 P-B3 P-B4 10 B-QN5

A waste of a move that hands the initiative over to Black. Better was 10 Q-N3.

10 .... O-O 11 B-KB4 B-Q3
12 BxB QxB 13 Q-Q3

More waste of time. Since development by N-R3 followed by N-B2-K3 is too slow he should try here 13 P-KR3.

13 .... BxN 14 QxB R-B3
15 N-R3 QR-KB1 16 B-Q3

Now he realizes his mistake on the sixteenth move; but a better regrouping of this bishop lay in 16 B-B1, having P-KN3 and B-N2 in mind.

16 .... R-R3 17 P-R3 N-N4
18 Q-K3 P-B5 19 Q-K2

If instead 19 Q-Q2, RxP.

19 .... P-B6 20 Q-K3
20 .... NxP ch 21 PxN RxP

White resigns. Exchange of queens brings no relief, eg 22 Q-K6ch QxQ, 23 RxQ R-B5, when White has no good means of averting the mate by the two rooks.

Harry Golombek

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 277)

Prizes of the New Collins Concise English dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 1, 1984. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, March 3, 1984.

ACROSS
1 Colourful parrot (5)
4 Cyclone (7)
8 Climbing steps (5)
9 Egg yolk paint (7)
10 Gratuitous (2,6)
11 Sweetheart (4)
13 Unadorned (5)
15 Not real (5)
19 Chinese secret society (4)
20 Stalemate (8)
23 Push rugby ball forward (5,2)
24 Open sore (5)
25 Go over again (7)
26 Two score (5)

DOWN
1 Male teacher (6)
2 Metallic noise (5)
3 Anti-coagulant compound (8)
4 Dainty scrap (6)
5 Boisterous game (4)
6 Eternal (7)
7 Not transparent (6)
12 Manacle (8)
14 Rugby throw in (4,3)
16 Furnaceman (6)
17 Spiritualist meeting (6)
18 Rocky Scottish island (6)
21 Film award (5)
22 Predatory seabird (4)

SOLUTION TO No 276
ACROSS: 1 Solicit 5 Dusts 8 Ago 9 Cabinet 10 UNRWA 11 Glee 12 Reliant 14 Night watchman 16 Ungodly 18 Oast 21 Nitre 22 Cassata 23 Sec 24 Orris 25 Arrange
DOWN: 1 Sick 2 Libel 3 Conceitedness 4 Tatar 5 Double crosser 6 Sarcasm 7 Shantung 13 Innuendo 15 Gagster 17 Yucca 19 Spain 20 Hate

Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

SOLUTION TO No 271 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Hound 4 Quizzed 8 Blimp 9 Acclaim 10 Ignorant 11 Coin 13 Bored 15 Pulse 19 Hick 20 Soulless 23 Odalisk 24 Cynic 25 Nodular 26 Niece
DOWN: 1 Hubris 2 Union 3 Deported 4 Quaint 5 Inch 6 Zealous 7 Domino 12 Publican 14 Orchard 16 Shoo in 17 Worker 18 Psyche 21 Ernie 22 Till

The winners of prize concise No 271 are: E R Donnelly, 2 Thornsett Terrace, Croydon Road, Penge, London; and D K Jervis, 10 Fitzjohn Avenue Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Name...

Address...

....

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

ELGAR'S ENIGMA: In a programme to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Sir Edward Elgar, Leonard Bernstein, the famous American conductor/composer/pianist, is seen at rehearsal and in performance conducting the *Enigma Variations* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Bernstein's interpretation of the piece, described by Elgar's biographer Michael Kennedy as "the greatest piece of orchestral music written by an Englishman", is startlingly original. BBC2, 7.45-9.50pm.

SIR WILLIAM IN SEARCH OF XANADU: Barrie Gavin's documentary tries to capture the elusive personality of Sir William Burrell, the Glasgow shipping millionaire whose magnificent art collection is now on public display in a purpose-designed gallery in the city. The programme includes first-hand accounts from Burrell's insurance agent, gardener, housekeeper and others and there are some remarkable insights into an extraordinary man. Channel 4, 8.30-9.30pm.

PROFESSIONAL BOXING: A live transmission from the Palais de Sport in Paris of the European middleweight championship fight between Louis Acaries, the Algerian-born holder, and Britain's Tony Sibson, who is trying to recover the title he relinquished for his abortive attempt to take the world crown from Marvin Hagler. All ITV regions, 10.15-11.15pm.

VENETIAN GLASS: Glass has probably been made in Venice since Roman times, and there is documentary evidence going back more than 1,000 years. The traditional method of working, which helps to give Venetian glass its distinctiveness, is to model the glass while it is still hot and add the characteristic filigree and mosaic by hand. This exhibition, arranged to coincide with the *Genius of Venice* show at the Royal Academy, includes 250 pieces of historic and modern glass and more than 60 craft workshops will be showing their products. Italian Trade Centre, 46 Piccadilly, London W1 (734 2412). Daily, 10am-5pm, admission free. Until Wed.

Tomorrow

MAGIC GOES NORTH: The International Magicians' Gala is the culmination of the Blackpool Magic Convention which attracts practitioners from East Germany, Sweden, France, Spain and Britain. Jugglers, magicians with balloons, illusionists, and a Victorian magic act are all part of the show. Winter Gardens, Blackpool (0253 27786). 7pm. Tickets: £3.50.

IF THEY COULD SEE ME NOW: Stage gala in aid of the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. Among those appearing in this song, dance, recitation and music show are Claire Bloom, Judi Dench, Alan Jay Lerner, Wendy Hiller, Faith Brook, Dorothy Tutin, Georgina Hale, Liz Robertson, Tom Bell, Michael Hordern, Michael Williams, Denis Quilley, Frank Finlay, Sylvia Sims, Derek Nimmo, Tim Curry, Joanna Lumley. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (836 8108). Today only, at 7pm. Tickets £5–£25, or a few at £50 including buffet and wine with performers.

WALES! WALES?: A series of six films on the history of modern Wales presented by Dai Smith, who lectures in Welsh history at University College, Cardiff, and was co-author of the acclaimed official history of the Welsh Rugby Union. In the first programme he discusses the question of identity and formulates his own answer to the question, "who do they think they are?". BBC2, 5.10-6pm.

NEVER SING LOUDER THAN LOVELY: Richard Baker presents a tribute to Dame Isobel Baillie, the Scottish-born soprano, who died in September at the age of 88. She was brought up and studied in Manchester, made her London debut in 1923 and for 30 years was a leading performer in oratorio, being particularly well known for her singing of Handel's *Messiah* and Brahms's *German Requiem*. She is remembered by Dame Eva Turner, Sir Keith Falkner and Beryl Reid and the programme includes extracts from her recordings. Radio 4, 8-8.45pm.

SPITTING IMAGE: Billed as a cross between *The Muppets* and *Not the Nine O'Clock News*, this is a new 12-part series of topical satires in which well-known figures, from President Reagan to Tony Benn and Joan Collins, are represented by puppets. They are the creation of Roger Law and Peter Fluck, whose work is familiar from magazine covers around the world, and will feature sketches by John Lloyd, co-producer of *Not the Nine O'Clock News*, and Tony Hendra, former editor of the American satirical magazine, *National Lampoon*. All ITV regions, 10-10.30pm.

TREVOR GRIFFITHS: Although he has written several stage plays, including *The Comedians*, and was the screenwriter on Warren Beatty's *Reds* about the Russian revolution, Griffiths has done most of his work for television, from the series, *Bill Brand*, to single plays like *Through the Night*. In *The South Bank Show*, Griffiths talks with Melvyn Bragg about his writing and the problems of dealing with political and social issues through television drama. All ITV regions, 10.30-11.30pm.

Monday

WORDS AND MUSIC: Benny Green, Denis King, Elaine Delmar, Toni Kanal in a compilation of songs and music by Coward, Kern, Gershwin, Puccini, Rodgers, Berlioz, Beerbohm, Tchaikovsky, Durante, Previn and others. Ambassadors (836 1171). Opens today at 7pm, until Mar 3, Tues-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8.30pm.

THE MIKADO: Gilbert and Sullivan operetta in the production by the Stratford Festival, Ontario, Canada, directed and choreographed by Brian Macdonald. Cast includes Marie Baron, Eric Donkin, Richard MacMillan, John Keane, Paul Massel, Avo Kittask. Old Vic (928 7616). Previews today and tomorrow at 7.30pm, opening night gala Wed at 7pm, in the presence of Princess Anne. Until Mar 7, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm (no matinée this Wed).

VERDICT: Anthony Steel, Hildegard Neil and Richard Coleman, directed by Charles Vance, start a tour of 21 provincial towns with this Agatha Christie murder mystery: the only piece written by her specifically for the stage. Richmond Theatre, The Green, Richmond, Surrey (940 0080). Opens today at 7.45pm. Until Mar 3, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinée Wed at 2.30pm.

THE MAN WHO FELL IN LOVE WITH HIS WIFE: Ted Whitehead's play, with Tom Bell and Lynn Farleigh (see page 16).

Tuesday

CHILDREN'S BOOKS: The first part of the Van Veen collection of children's books and juvenilia goes under the hammer. Treasures amassed by the scholarly Dutch banker include a host of nineteenth-century moving picture books, miniature books, panoramas, peepshows and "phantasmascopes" – the circular spinning pictures which were the forerunners of film and showed acrobats, jugglers and a man swallowing a cow. Sotheby's, Bloomfield Place, London W1 (493 8080) at 11am and 2pm.

EXOTIC TEXTILES: A Javanese batik panel decorated with flying birds, a Japanese Kesi tapestry panel, Ottoman silk hats, Chinese robes and Indian saris are in a sale of oriental and Islamic textiles and costumes. Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (581 2231) at 2pm.

MASTER CLASS: David Pownall's play with Timothy West, Jonathan Adams, David Bamber and Peter Kelly, transfers from the Old Vic, for a six-week run in the West End. Wyndham's (836 3028). Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30 pm; matinées Wed at 3pm.

Z FOR ZACHARIAH: Anthony Andrews, wearing make-up that took three hours to put on, plays a scientist suffering from radiation sickness in a television film for the *Play For Today* slot, written and directed by Anthony Garner. He strikes up a friendship with a fellow survivor from the nuclear holocaust, a 16-year-old girl: she is played by Pippa Hinchley, her first professional role. BBC1, 9.35-11.35pm.

THE WRECK OF THE CAMPESE BAY: The excellent *Chronicle* programme joins the excavation of one of the most interesting wrecks discovered in the Mediterranean, off the island of Giglio near Italy. Michael Menson Bound, an Oxford archaeologist, started out on the trail of the wreck 20 years ago, spurred by old photographs and the memories of sub-aqua enthusiasts. Since then he has steadily built up clues to the wreck's identity and more finds are expected this season. BBC2, 8.10-9pm.

DARIO FO: Television profile of the Italian playwright, performer, scholar and clown whose political farce, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, ran in London for two years and was followed by the equally successful *Can't Pay Won't Pay*. Fo once had his own television show in Italy, performing to audiences of up to 20 million people with his wife, Franca Rame, but as his work took a more political turn he fell out with the television authorities; he has also been banned from visiting the United States. The programme visits Fo at home and at work and films him performing his masterpiece, *Mistero Buffo*, in a tent at the Venice Carnival. BBC2, 10-10.50pm.

Wednesday

BRITISH PICTURES: A two-day sale of 574 paintings, drawings and watercolours from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries begins with sombre portraits and continues with seascapes, horses, birds, landscapes and genre scenes. Among them are a watercolour of Margate Sands by Kate Greenaway and Sir Frederick William Burton's personification of "Weary". Sotheby's 34 & 35 New Bond Street, London W1 (493 8080). Today at 11am; tomorrow at 2.30pm.

JUMPERS: Tom Stoppard's play revived with Tom Courtenay and Julie Walters in the lead roles. Royal Exchange, Manchester (061 833 9833). Preview today at 8pm, opens tomorrow at 7pm. Until Apr 7, Mon-Tues at 7.30pm, Wed-Sat at 8pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm.

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL: England play France in Paris with memories still fresh of their last encounter, in the World Cup, when England had a fine 3-1 victory. Since then fortunes have changed, with England failing to qualify for the European Championship which France will host in the summer. The match is being covered live on BBC1, 7.20-9.20pm.

Thursday

FURNITURE AND METALWORK: One unusual object going under the hammer is a red Victorian bird-cage in the shape of a Gothic house (estimate £300-£400). In addition to pewter plates, brass candlesticks, refectory tables and cabinets there is a fine William and Mary burr-walnut bureau (estimate £4,000-£6,000). Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060) at 11am.

WILLIAM MORRIS TODAY: An exhibition to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of William Morris, epic poet, storyteller, inspiration of the arts and crafts revival and utopian socialist, whose influence lives on in his bold and naturalistic designs for wallpaper and fabrics. The exhibition sets Morris's work and ideas in the contexts of both Victorian Britain and the present day and makes use of cartoons, maps, photographs, video and computers. Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW11 (930 3647). Until Apr 29, Tues-Sat noon-9pm. Admission 50p, children under 14 free.

RADIO MEMORIES: The first auction devoted entirely to vintage radio equipment includes a mid-nineteenth century telegraph receiver, 1920s broadcast receivers, a collection of First World War military radio equipment and a pre-1914 spark gap transmitter and receiver, a Baird Televisor made in 1930. Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (581 2231) at 2pm.

STRIPPERS; Peter Terson's new play (commissioned by the theatre) is the result of local research by the author into the way some women turn to striptease work to boost family income during the recession. John Blackmore directs a cast including Judi Lamb, Suzannah Fellows, Pamela Blackwood and Tracie Elizabeth Gillman in this world premiere production. Newcastle Playhouse, Newcastle upon Tyne (0632 323421). Previews today, Fri, Mar 3 and Mar 5 at 7.30pm. Opens Mar 6 at 7.30pm until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm.

ON THE SPOT: Edgar Wallace's play of 1920s Chicago and its gangsters is directed by Rob Walker, and stars Simon Callow and James Warwick, with Shaun Curry and Maurice Colbourne. Palace Theatre, Watford (0923 25671). Opens today at 7.45pm. Until Mar 31, Mon-Thurs at 7.45, and Sat at 8pm, press night Mar 6 at 7.45pm; matinée Mar 24 at 3pm.

SHANE: Bob Eaton's stage adaptation of the western novel by Jack Shaefer is directed by Bob Carlton. Neil Boorman takes the title role made famous by Alan Ladd in the film. Everyman, Liverpool (051 709 4776). Opens today at 8pm. Until Mar 31, Tues-Sat at 8pm.

Friday

TEST CRICKET: After losing the series in New Zealand, England are hoping for better things in Pakistan where a three-match rubber starts today in Karachi. But the lifeless Pakistan pitches make draws the most likely outcome. The *Test Match Special* team of Don Mosey, Tony Lewis, Henry Blofeld and Michael Carey will be providing ball by ball commentary on the final two sessions of each day's play on Radio 3, from 8.30am today and from 7.30pm on other days

NEIL WELLIVER: The first one-man show in Europe for this important American artist, now aged 55. Much of his work is on a large scale, and nearly all of it illustrates the woods and mountains of Maine, where he now lives. He continues what one might call the Wyeth tradition with very detailed and meticulous landscapes, observed with a clinical precision which does not exclude a romantic feeling for atmosphere. Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albermarle Street, London W1 (629 5161). Until March 31, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm.

STREET FLEET: No use looking to writer-director Joel Schumacher for finesse, but the rude, warm vigour of this comedy about Washington's most disreputable taxi firm exerts a definite appeal. A bustling cast includes the huge Mr T (from *Rocky III*), Adam Baldwin, and Charlie Bennett, an energetic comic discovered by Schumacher on the streets of New York. Cert 15. Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234); Classic Oxford Street (636 0310).

THE RIGHT STUFF: Film adaptation of Tom Wolfe's best-selling novel about American space pioneers (see page 17).

BEYOND THE DOOR: Film by Liliana Cavani of *Night Porter* fame. The story of a love triangle complicated by betrayal and denials. Starring Marcello Mastroianni as the man jailed for a murder he did not commit. Cert 18. Classic Chelsea (352 5096); Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148).

CHAMPION: John Hurt in John Irwin's film based on the true story of the jockey, Bob Champion, who overcame a multitude of problems including cancer to win the Grand National in 1981. Cert PG. Odeon Leicester Square (930 6111).

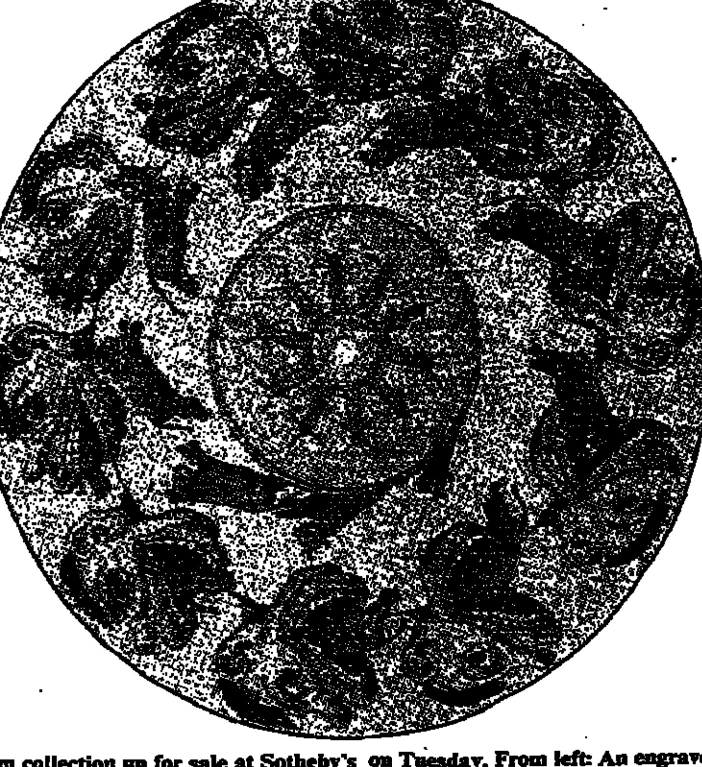
CHRISTINE: New film by John Carpenter (*Hallowe'en* and *Assault on Precinct 13*) and based on thriller-writer Stephen King's book. Set in the United States, it is the story of a 1958 Plymouth Fury car called Christine, which has both mind and emotions of its own, and the consequences when its new college boy owner falls in love. Cert 18. Leicester Square Theatre (930 5252).

OVER THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE: An offbeat Jewish film comedy starring Elliott Gould as a café owner on the wrong side of Brooklyn Bridge who has aspirations to cross over to the Manhattan side, and the problems he encounters en route. Cert 15. Classic Haymarket (839 1527).

THE WORLD WALK: Alec McCowen plays Albert Speer, Hitler's former architect and armaments minister, in a play by Jonathan Smith which is set during Speer's 20-year imprisonment in Spandau jail. The title comes from Speer's daily walk around the walled prison garden during which he records the number of kilometres covered and wonders whether he will do the equivalent of the circumference of the earth. BBC2, 10-05pm.

Week following

Mar 3: Rugby Union, Ireland v Scotland and France v England.
Mar 4: A civic service at St Mary's Church, Lichfield, Staffordshire, marks the official start of the bi-centenary commemoration of the town's most famous son, Dr Samuel Johnson, who died in 1784.


Childish delights: Three of the treasures from the Van Veen collection up for sale at Sotheby's on Tuesday. From left: An engraved, hand-coloured pictorial card, one of a set of five from about 1820; a "phantasmascope" which can be spun to show a man eating a cow (c 1860); and a Dutch version of Little Red Riding Hood in which the pictures move by levers (1866)



Plucky performers: Italian man of many talents, Dario Fo (see Tues) and British boxer Tony Sibson hoping to regain a European title (Today).



Striking survivors: Anthony Andrews as a scientist scarred by nuclear fall-out (see Tues) and William Morris, living on in his art (Thurs)

Software

Neat attempt to find a common language

People who play around with the notion that a common language unites all do so at their own risk. One recalls Graham Greene's acerbic description of the failed spy preaching the dubious virtues of Entrenationo in *The Confidential Agent*. And, while it may be well-meant, who knows a single word of Esperanto?

It is with some trepidation, then, that I approach an offering from the BBC which promises to bridge the gap between most common types of home computer and make them all understand the same computer language. Basicode is the name of the program, as any addict of Barry Norman's Radio 4 spot *The Chip Shop* will know, and for £3.95 the cassette containing the program and 18 demonstration routines are yours.

The Basicode kit consists of the tape and a rather impenetrable booklet explaining how it can be used to enable your computer to understand programs broadcast by *The Chip Shop* and a couple of European radio stations. You record the fuzzy clicks put out on the radio and then feed them into your machine; the Basicode translator adapts these for your use by ironing out the idiosyncratic wrinkles which each computer has in its version of the common language Basic.

Everything clear so far? Good, because Basicode purchasers will need their wits about them. For a start, you can spend ages tracking down your particular translation routine on side one of the cartridge. All 13 of them sit like musical tracks, separated by Barry Norman's brief introduction. Finding the one you want is no mean feat.

Once you have achieved this, the program fits neatly into the computer and stays there until you switch the machine off. Each make of computer has different routines for using the program. In my case, the Commodore 64 manual was none too clear on how to use a nine-symbol code to instruct the computer to load another piece of software – but after a hour of puzzling I got the hang of things.

The trouble began when I flipped the cassette over and tried some of the demonstration programmes. The welcome message slipped in easily, and gave me a couple of radio frequencies to use to pick up continental Basicode offerings. The other 17 items were less amenable. The most complex game, a rudimentary version of the Kong school of arcade games, was happy to fill the screen but resolutely refused to respond to any command to begin. The same applied to a neat program which seemed to be designed to show the chord positions on a guitar.

After a couple of hours' work, the only ones I could rely on were two scientific formulas – one to do with the exact mass of elements and the other about resistance and capacitance values of an astable multivibrator using the NE555 (no, neither do I) – and a clever little thing on the problem of Claude Gaspard Bachet de Mezirac. Claude's problem, as I am sure you will know, was writing a number which equalled the sum of four whole squares: had he been born in the computer age instead of 1581, it would have been no problem at all.

Is all this worth £3.95? I have to say, without hesitation, yes – but not for the demonstration programs, which even when they work are pretty hopeless. Basicode is undoubtedly neanderthal stuff in the kind of software it can handle. Graphics and colours are, for instance, beyond its ken. But, unlike commercial software, it is designed to be broken into and modified by the home user.

Even a relative idiot can list programs to check for errors or add in little sophistications, and in this way Basicode represents a neat adjunct to learning how to write for the computer yourself.

The word from Holland is that a more sophisticated version of Basicode is on the way – and will no doubt be available over the airwaves to those who own the present one to translate it. In the meantime, *The Chip Shop* is looking to put the system to some greater use than playing games. I suspect the applications will never be sophisticated in themselves, simply because of the limitations dictated by the nature of electronic Esperanto, but, for half the price of a standard games cassette, can we really complain?

David Hewson

Basicode runs on Apple II and IIe, BBC Models A and B, the Commodore 64, the Colour Genie, Commodore 3000, 4000 and 8000, Pet 2001, VIC 20, Sharp MZ80K, Sinclair ZX-81, and TRS-80/Videogenie. It costs £3.95 from Broadcasting Support Services, PO Box 7, London W3 6XJ.



Collecting

Carve-ups by the furniture Frankensteins

"How", asked the owner, "would you describe this? Is it a buffet or a court cupboard?"

"I'd call it a severe case of excessive chest expansion", replied the valuer. *"The sort of thing some auctioneers catalogue as basically seventeenth century with later additions, and the dealers dismiss as a Victorian carve-up."*

"But that's absurd. Victorian? My Uncle Eustace considered it to be the finest piece of early oak in his collection. It's dated 1603."

"It began life, probably about 1650, as a simple, box-like chest or coffer, with panelled front and ends, and a plank top hinged along the rear edge. As a type, it was one of the most popular pieces of furniture over a very long period, and hundreds like it have survived – some in original condition, others embellished to a greater or lesser extent."

"You make 'embellished' sound like a dirty word."

"The whole of the superstructure – the central cupboard with its canted ends, the canopy above and the balusters supporting it – was added about a hundred years ago, using genuine seventeenth-century panels carved with lozenges, probably cannibalized from another chest. The balusters were no doubt parts of a pair of bed-posts, recarved with acanthus leaves. The mouldings and the rest of the upper part were new at the time. And the date of James I's accession was added as a bonus."

"Oh well, at least the bottom part is authentic. That, I dare say, is what Uncle Eustace really appreciated – all that rich carving."

"I dare say. But the Victorians, like your Uncle Eustace, favoured oak that was decorated in a mixture of Gothic, Renaissance and baroque styles, that they liked to think of as Elizabethan. In this instance, they superimposed the carvings of the medieval knight and the bishop, with the grotesque mask between, on the plain front panels, and planted a Mannerist figure at either end."

"You mean the merman and mermaid?"

"Male supports of this kind are called atlantes and female, caryatids."

"Whatever they are, I've always thought the poor girl looked quite terrified."

"As well she might, having to pretend to be supporting all that superstructure. In fact, these are authentic fragments, probably removed from a Jacobean chimney piece and plonked on to the stiles of the chest. Caryatid supports of that period often wore horrified expressions."

"So according to you, none of the carving, even on the basic chest, is original?"

"Very little. Only that row of lunettes running along the rail with the lock at the centre. They've been rather coarsely copied on the cornice of the upper part, to assist in the illusion that the whole thing was made at the same time."

"Could it have been? I mean, was nothing like this made in 1603?"

"Cupboards with superstructures of the this type were produced at that time, yes; but they were mounted on bases with open shelves, or enclosed by doors – not constructed as chests with rising tops, like this, which needed the lid to be divided and rehinged in front of the superstructure to provide access to the interior of the base."

"So you're saying, quite categorically, that – leaving the later carving out of the argument – nothing was constructed in this way in the early seventeenth century?"

"No, I'm not saying that. Unique pieces made in some eccentric way are constantly turning up to confound the experts. But unconventional construction arouses suspicions which are very often justified."

"And was it the construction that made you doubtful of this piece in the first place?"

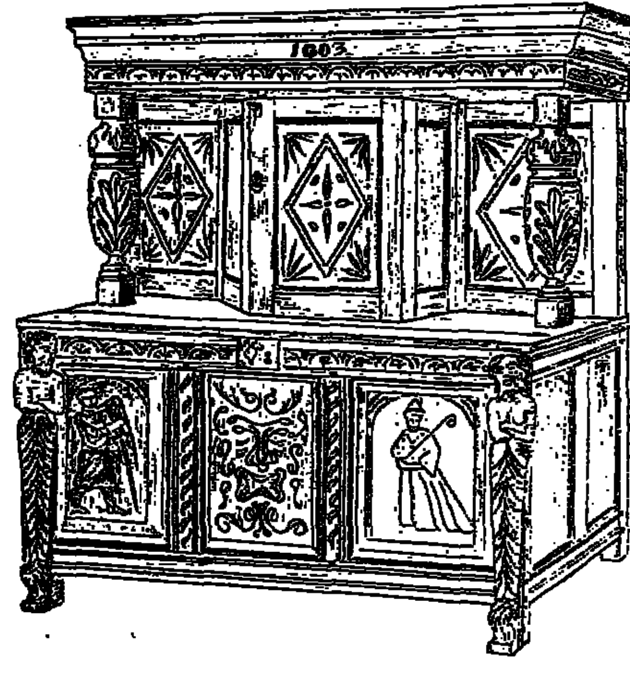
"Construction, proportions, varying quality in the carving and the colour. To even up all the miscellaneous bits and pieces, the Frankenstein of the furniture trade who created this monster gave it a nice coat of black stain all over – the usual finish to a vast range of nineteenth-century spoofs."

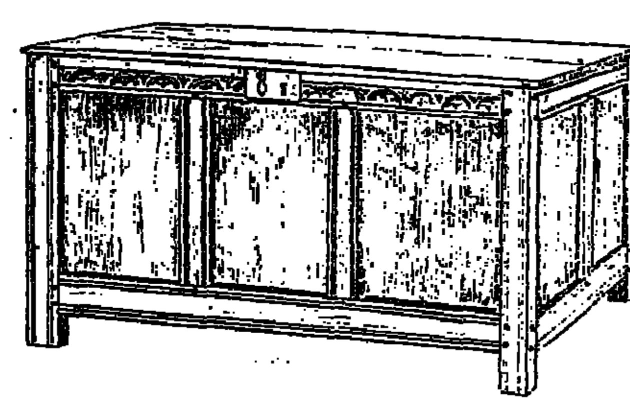
"So much for all those Victorian values we've been told to emulate!"

"I did say spoofs – not fakes. Some of these carve-ups were done with intent to deceive, but many were the work of amateurs, intent on improving their own possessions. Woodcarving was considered a polite accomplishment for ladies."

"Really? Perhaps I'll revive it. That Conran desk in my husband's study – a couple of caryatids would liven it up no end."

Peter Philp





Excessive chest expansion: 1650 panelled coffer before and after elaborate Victorian embellishment

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Treasury cat among banking pigeons

By yesterday evening, the gilt-edged market was calming down, after the choppy 24 hours since the Inland Revenue had casually announced that it would henceforth be taxing building societies' capital gains on gilts at 40 per cent.

A few mysteries have been cleared up. The disingenuous pronouncement that the change was being made purely on "legal advice" was given political context by Mr Ian Stewart, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury. Yes, of course ministers were a party to the Inland Revenue's action. Why was this tax-raising measure not announced in the Budget? It arises out of the application of existing law, not a policy change to be embodied in the Finance Bill.

Even so, the timing was odd. It came through to brokers' offices just before five o'clock on Thursday. If the Revenue thought it would cool things down by holding back until after normal market hours, it reckoned without the lure of juicy commissions. Gilt-edged brokers simply stayed at their desks – and one estimates the building societies off-loaded £2,500m of stock. It was a double bonanza for the jobbers, facing a one-way market on Thursay evening and Friday morning: they simply widened their margins, marked prices up and down – and collected handsome profits.

Long-term, the feeling seems to be that the impact on the market will be modest, There will be an incentive for building societies to look down new investment avenues and perhaps to increase their holdings of bank certificates of deposit. There will also be an incentive for the 11 biggest building societies (with assets over £2,000m and therefore the right to do so) to issue more ceritificates of deposit themselves.

In the political market, however, the consequences of Thursday's announcement have still to be worked out. The building societies have made much of their anger, threatening dire consequences for mortgage rates; they have called a meeting for March 16 – just three days after the Budget. But it is no coincidence that the announcement came only days after the societies had charted a future course that would take them deeper into the retail banking business. A tax change that brings them more in line with the banks can pe presented as the logical consequence of their own development strategy.

Many other possible changes flow from that logic, which have implications for the Budget. If the Chancellor's aim it to equalize the tax treatment of financial institutions, will he abolish the composite rate of tax building societies pay? Will he try to save civil service manpower by getting the banks to pay interst net of tax? Given that "equalization" is expected to mean more tax all round on financial services, not less, who will feel the next blow? Banks? Insurance companies? It will be an uneasy fortnight for the City.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England has been carrying out its traditional pre-Budget smoothing out of money market pressure. There are two peaks to the revenue season: when corporation tax comes in towards the end of January and when Petroleum Revenue Tax is paid in early March. Last year, the Bank had to give temporary help to the banking system as early as January 21.

This year things have gone more smoothly, through February, but now the Bank reckons help is needed. It is offering temporary facilities to all recognised banks and licensed deposit-takers (above a certain minimum size) for amounts up to 11 per cent of each institution's eligible liabilities, compared with a limit of 1½ per cent early last year. If all the offers were taken up, the assistance would amount to £900m.

Good omen for Hanson Trust

After nine weeks of heated exchanges, Hanson Trust's £247m takeover bid for London Brick closes finally at 3 pm on Tuesday. The result is difficult to predict but a 7p leap in the share price yesterday to 168p after heavy tea-time buying by stockbrokers Rowe & Pitman, indicates that the bid will succeed. The brokers were unlikely to be buying on behalf of an 11th-hour "white knight" Charter Consolidated; was one of yesterday's speculation probably they were buying because Hanson's convertible offer is a cheap way into Hanson shares, if you accept that an industrial conglomerate, with 30 per cent of London Brick in the bag, is the winner.

The majority of other shareholders have still to decide and no one can be blamed for taking their time. London Brick has put up a ferocious fight. It has forecast pretax profits of £36m for this year – £10m higher than 1983 and more than £20m more than in 1982. Brick deliveries so far this year are 10 per cent ahead of the level on which the £36m forecast was based so the company may do even better.

The Takeover Panel will not allow the company to say much about 1985. Hanson's bankers complained yesterday about comments its chairman made about 1985. He was, apparently, misquoted, but it is clear that further progress will be made. London Brick expect fletton deliveries to be higher and, provided there is no hitch in planning consent, the cost benefits of the new £25m brick works in Bedfordshire should begin to feed through in that year. The effect on profits of the group's new "super fletton" brick, due to come into production next year, should not be underestimated. It will sell at near the price of a high quality non-fletton facing brick and have the low production cost characteristics of a fletton.

London Brick's profit potential has long been recognized by investment analysts. It is a pity it has taken the management so long to tap it. If it had set in train the current programme of action two years earlier, it would not be facing this bid and there would be no danger of it losing control at 180p a share.

But the change is now apparent. Hanson is going to find it difficult to go away if it loses this time with its near 30 per cent shareholding in the company. Long term holders would, therefore, seem to have little to lose by rejecting the bid despite the quality of an investment in Hanson being offered through the convertible. In the short term, the share price is bound to fall if the bid fails. Short term holders should either gamble by accepting the convertible or selling in the market.

Britoil extends deadline for Scott Lithgow reprieve

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Hopes of saving Scott Lithgow from closure brightened considerably yesterday when Britoil made clear that it is increasingly confident that its crucial unfinished North Sea oil rig will now be completed at the threatened Clydeside yard.

The board of Britoil – which originally cancelled the rig before Christmas – met yesterday to discuss the Scott Lithgow situation and agreed to give the rival bidders for thre yard more time to complete their negotiations before confirming the cancellation.

Meanwhile, Howard Doris, the Scottish oil rig construction company, dropped a strong hint that it intended to make a formal bid for the yard within the next two weeks to match the one already promised by Trafalgar House.

A statement from Britoil yesterday said that its negotiations with Trafalgar House had now reached a stage where both parties could enter detailed contractual negotiations about the completion of the rig, which is only one third finished and already running two years behind schedule.

"These will cover both technical and commercial factors, the preliminary discussions having established that there is a basis for detailed negotiations", the statement said.

Britoil emphasized, however, that its discussions with other interested parties, which include both Howard Doris and Bechtel, are continuing. Britoil has consistently sought to give other bidders besides Trafalgar House time to prepare rival bids for the yard.

Howard Doris's statement said it had completed initial discussions with both Britoil and British Shipbuilders, and would be approaching the trade unions next week. It intended to follow this with "submissions" to Britoil and to British Shipbuilders' chairman, Mr Graham Day, within the next two weeks. A Spokesman for the company said that this would be a formal bid for the yard.



Graham Day: in talks with Howard Doris

Trafalgar House said last night that it welcomed the Britoil statement, which marked a step forward for Scott Lithgow. Trafalgar House continues to be sceptical about the chances of any other company producing a competitive bid, but appears to have dropped its original target of completing its own deal by the end of this month.

"We are doing everything in our power to bring this to a speedy conclusion," a spokesman said. "Time is pressing, but clearly a lot depends on the other side in these negotiations".

British Shipbuilders said that it had had exploratory talks with Howard Doris yesterday, and expected to have further contacts next week. But it emphasized that Trafalgar House was still the only company it was negotiating with. "Everything depends on the bidder reaching agreement with Britoil," a spokesman said.

Directors at Britoil are believed to have satisfied themselve that at least one of the bidders will be able to complete the rig in time for the drilling season in 1986.

● Two thousand boilmakers from Swan Hunter's four Tyneside shipyards yesterday voted to ban overtime 10 days after signing of a peace deal. Their action is in response to a disagreement over payments for abnormal working conditions.

Kuwait acts over market collapse

By Jeremy Warner

The Kuwaiti Government is to set up a $1 billion (£690m) company to help pick up the pieces left by the collapse 18 months ago of the country's unofficial stock exchange, the Suq al Manakh.

The collapse came after a fall in share prices resulted in investors being unable to honour post-dated cheques, worth an estimated $94 billion. The cheques had been used to buy shares in expectation of their prices going up before payment was due.

The formation of the new company, announced yesterday by the Kuwaiti minister of finance and oil, Shaikh Ali Khalifa al Sabah, is the latest in a series of actions taken by the Government to resolve the financial crisis caused by the collapse in the market.

The new company will take over property and shares owned by key stock market dealers, who have been declared bankrupt by a government-appointed arbitration panel, set up after the collapse in the market.

It will also have substantial cash resources to help support its investments.

The arbitration has estimated the worth of the 17 largest speculators, at between 20 and 34 per cent of their liabilities.

The Kuwaiti Government will own about 40 per cent of the new company, and the rest will be offered for subscription.

In the heyday of the Suq al Manakh, nearly all the companies listed were speculating in one another's shares regardless of whether they were genuine investment companies or those involved in trading manufacturing or construction.

Agents plan sell-off in 1986

By Our Financial Correspondent

The Crown Agents hope to make their first move towards privatization in 1986, Mr Peter Graham, the Senior Crown Agent, said yesterday. This is likely to involve the placing of a minority of shares with City institutions as a prelude to a full stock market flotation three years later.

Mr Graham, speaking the day after the Government's reprieve of the 151-year-old organisation, confirmed that he was also keen to see employees and staff take between 10 and 20 per cent of equity.

The Government would have to retain a shareholding of about 50 per cent for some time, however, in order not to risk losing the custom of overseas governments and other bodies, which have always valued the impartial public sector reputation of the Agents.

The Agents expect to be back in profit by 1986, when they will be much slimmer and more streamlined. After selling their London head office at Millbank, for a minimum of £10m and cutting staff numbers from 1,200 to fewer than 900, the capital base at privatization is likely to be no more than £10m.

Mr Graham, who took over as part-time Senior Crown Agent last summer, acknowledged that the property investment problems of the early 1970s had not helped the Agents' struggle to survive after the loss of the lucrative Brunei investment management contract last summer.

"Most people think of the Agents in terms of the horrible and expensive mess of 1974, and this still lives with us."

Power stations may be run privately

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A power station closed since 1981 and one due for closure later this year, with the loss of 200 jobs, may become the first two in Britain to be operated commercially by private industry, supplying power to the national grid.

Taylor Woodrow Energy and Balfour Beatty are to carry out a joint study into the possibility of operating the stations at Camarthen Bay, due to close in October, and at Plymouth "B", which closed in 1981.

On Monday, engineers will move into the stations to make engineering and cost studies. Their reports are likely to be ready early in the summer when the companies will jointly decide whether to become the first to take advantage of changes in the Energy Act and become private power-station operators.

The Plymouth station was built in 1951 as a coal-fired operation and converted to oil-burning in 1959. Camarthen Bay was built as a coal-fired station in 1954.

Taylor and Balfour, which are also involved in the Severn Barrage tidal power project, plan to reconvert Plymouth to coal and fuel both stations with supplies bought from the National Coal Board. The use of imported coal has, at this stage, been ruled out.

Balfour has designed, built and operated power stations and Taylor has been involved in wind-powered electricity generation for the national grid in Orkney.

Dollar slide continues

The dollar continued to slide yesterday, losing nearly 3 pfennigs to finish London trading at DM2.6295, a four-month low. Since Tuesday, when fears of a possible closure of the Straits of Hormuz caused a short-lived move into dollars, the United States currency has dropped almost 7.5 pfennigs or 2.7 per cent.

The pound lost some ground after a statement from Iran that the Straits would be kept open but it later recovered to finish nearly a cent up at $1.4715, its highest closing level since late November.

Its trade-weighted index, reflecting losses against European currencies, fell 0.1 to 82.6, a rise of only 0.1 on the week.

Market report, page 22

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 815.8 up 8.9
FT Gilts: 82.39 down 0.57
FT All Share: 491.30 up 1.41
Bargains: 28,040
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 106.66 down 0.37
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1143.84 up 9.21
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,962.87 up 23.31
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1048.76 down 18.53
Amsterdam: 165.9 down 2.0
Sydney: AC Index 743.8 down 1.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1034.5 up 6.6
SE 100 Index 1031.7 down 11.3 (day's high: 1036.9; low 1030.8)

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4715 up 90pts
Index $2.6 down 0.1
DM 3.8725 down 0.01
FrF 11.92 down 0.0325
Yen 343.25 up 1.75
Dollar
Index 127.5
DM 2.6295 down 0.0250
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4725
Dollar DM 2.6252
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £40.580629
SDR £0.719359

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $396.10 pm $395.75
close $396.00-$395.75 (£269.00-£269.50)
New York (latest): $397.00
Krugerrand* (per coin): $408.00-$409.50 (£277-278)
Sovereigns* (new): $93.0-$94.0 (£63.25-£64)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Murdoch in SEC action

News International, the group headed by Mr Rupert Murdoch, is seeking access to the shareholders' list of Warner Communications, the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington was told yesterday the group has informed Warner it is exploring alternatives aimed at influencing management or acquiring control.

● The Harris Queensway carpet group has again urged shareholders in Stylo, the Bradford shoe company, to accept its £35m offer.

● New York stocks moved up in early trading yesterday with the Dow Jones industrial average up 9.5 points to 144.13. But analysts said ti was too early to predict a reversal of the seven-weak decline.

● Powerline International, which distributes and services electronic power supplies, is to get a quote on the Unlisted Securities Market. Directors forecast profits doubling to more than £1m for 1984.

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9⅛ - 9
3 month interbank 9 11/32 - 5/32
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/16 - 10 3/16
3 month DM 5⅞ - 5¾
3 month Fr F13-12¾
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9⅞
Treasury long bond 98 29/32 - 99 1/32
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 4, 1984 to February 7, 1984 inclusive: 9.493 per cent.

US oil groups face curbs

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Legislation creating a *national oil* company to keep prices down during periods of tight supply will be soon introduced by a group of Congressmen who want to limit the power of private oil companies.

The Congressmen have expressed concern over the Justice Department's decision to drop a six-year investigation of alleged restraints of trade by leading oil companies during the 1973-74 crisis.

"A national company would prevent the oil companies from being able to jerk the public around," said Mr Richard Ottinger, a New York Congressman who is the main sponsor of the Bill.

Mr Ottinger, who chairs a House sub-committee on energy conservation ad power, was concerned by last month's oil shortage in New York during the cold wave which triggered a sharp rise in prices.

A national company, chargec with the task of buying refined oil products when prices are low, storing them at strategic places and selling them at below market prices would prevent erratic price fluctuations, Mr Ottinger said.

Mr Fernand St Germain, chairman of the House Banking Committee, who is also sponsoring the Bill, said the idea was to stabilize markets without creating unworkable government allocation and reserve requirement schemes.

But is opposed strongly by the Reagan Administration.

Mr Donald Hodel, the Secretary of Energy, told Congressional investigators at a recent hearing that creating a national company to in effect "tamper with the market", would end up costing the government millions of dollars without resolving anything.

Plan for small initial stake

NFC has cash to buy Sealink

By Philip Robinson

National Freight Consortium, the transport and travel business which said recently it would have to review debt repayments, would need no additional finance to stage a buy-out of Sealink ferries from the Government.

NFC, headed by Sir Peter Thompson, would provide the management and take a small equity stake but with an option to buy out the interests of its partners within five years as part of a plan to gain a Stock Exchange quotation for a joint NFC/Sealink company.

Mr James Watson, finance director of NFC, said yesterday: "We could cope with our involvement in Sealink within our current capital spending programme."

However, NFC will need tc raise money to fund expansion elsewhere. When it announced a 71 per cent pretax profits jump to £16m last month, NFC also revealed it had major distribution contracts – for Whitbread in the South-east and Sainsburys in the West Country – which would require increased working capital.



Sir Peter Thompson: Stock Exchange aim

NFC is discussing with its bankers, ways of raising fresh capital. If it were a Stock Exchange listed company now, the bankers might recommend a rights issue from shareholders. But the group's 13,000 holders of almost 83 per cent of the company are employees and NFC has alredy promised it would not ask them to put up fresh cash, or go for a Stock Exchange listing before 1987.

The shareholders gather today in the 2,500-seat Grand Hall at Wembley Conference Centre in London for NFC's second annual meeting. Since the buy-out, shareholders have seen the value of their shares quadruple to an effective £4 each. Today, approval is likely for the shares to be dividend again into two, making their value a more manageable £1 each.

NFC's net debt over shareholders funds was put at 110 per cent last month.

If NFC were to be chosen as the Sealink buyer, the structure of the small equity stake and later option to buy, would keep Sealink's debts off the NFC balance sheet.

In 1982 these totalled £154m. Some improvement was made last year, but it is still expected that the Government – through Sealink's owners British Rail – would need to write off about £78m to make the company attractive.

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Gilts steadier after tax bombshell

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings end March 9. Contango Day, March 12. Settlement Day, March 19.

The Government securities market began to regain some of its composure yesterday after the decision by the Inland Revenue to charge building societies 40 per cent tax on their gilt investments.

The move caught the stock market by surprise on Thursday night and many dealers were recalled to their offices to deal with the sudden welter of selling orders ahead of the Revenue's deadline. Short-dated coupons bore the brunt of Thursday's selling, with losses extending to £1 by the close of business.

Nervous selling again greeted the jobbers when business resumed yesterday and shorts again lost up to £1 before the appearance of a few cheap buyers enabled the market to pull out of its steep dive. By the close of business last night the jobbers were reporting average losses of up to £1½ in shorts and £½ in longs.

Among the worst casualties over the past two days were Exchequer 2 per cent 1985 down £2 at £85. Exchequer 3 per cent 1987 £2⅞ to £82⅜. Treasury 7 per cent 1988 £1¾ to £93¼ and Treasury 3 per cent 1988 £1½ to £80½.

Jobbers said the business on Thursday had been all one-way, which had enabled them to widen the spread and make the most out of the market's fears. But as they left their offices for the weekend break most complained that the shake-out had been overdone and prices would now be left to establish their own levels.

The Revenue's decision also had some sinister implications for the life insurance market, where dealers reported early heavy selling.

Chunks of the life insurance companies' portfolios are made up of gilt-edged investments, and a similar ruling would prove a blow. However, the panic proved short-lived and once again prices closed above their worst levels.

Bratannic closed all square on the day at 503p, after 500p, with **Equity & Law** at 819p, after 812p, and **Refuge Assurance** at 442p, after 438p. But falls were seen in Hambro Life down 4p at 468p, after 466p, **Legal & General** 4p at 512p, after 510p. **London & Manchester Group** 4p at 512p, after 510p. **Pearl Assurance** 4p at 854p, after 847p, and **Sun Life** 3p at 635p, after 631p.

The insurance composites spent a better day, still recovering from Commercial Union's disappointing profits performance this week. **CU** rallied a further 2p to 174p while **General Accident** improved 5p to 448p, **Guardian Royal Exchange** 2p to 515p, **London United Investments** 5p to 203p, **Minster Assets** 2p to 134p, **Phoenix** 5p to 468p and **Royal Insurance** 5p to 413p.

Rumours continue to swirl round GRA Group, the greyhound racing stadium owner. The latest is that it is about to sell its big Slough stadium for £5m, which could be worth 14p a share. But Mr Tony Kerry, a director, says: "I can't confirm that. No way". The shares closed 3½p higher at 64p.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed a firm end to the account, helped by a further reappraisal of ICI's full-year figures on Thursday and a firm start to trading on Wall Street.

The FT Index closed at its high for the day 8.9 up at 815.8 – a rise on the account of 10.4. The new Stock Exchange Index of top 100 companies, now officially known as the FT–SE 100 (or Footsie), ended the day 5.2 up at 1036.9.

One of the brightest performers was ICI, up 14p at 600p, after second thoughts about the figures. It was also good news for those shrewd brokers who bought the shares for new time, excluding the dividend, at 260p after the figures.

This was equivalent to the week's low of 576p. de Zoete & Bevan the stockbrokers, say the final figure of £619m was shy of its estimate of £630m. But with continued volume growth and the present weakness of the pound against the Deutschemark it has decided to stick with its original estimate of £860m for this year. The shares have fallen sharply since mid-December and the broker is recommending them as a "buy".

Other leading improved industrials included **Beecham Group**, up 25p at 316p, still reflecting its £42m Italian acquisition, as **Blue Circle Industries** hardened 5p to 420p. **Bowater** 3p to 261p, **Glaxo** 4p to 747p. **Thorn EMI** 7p to 624p, **Unilever** 5p to 915p and **Vickers** 2p to 145p. **Plessey** was another firm market after Thrusday's interim figures, adding 9p to 215p.

The oil market rallied after a flat start, but still fell short of overnight levels. **BP** dipped 3p to 425p, after 421p, **Britoil** 7p to 241p, **Clyde Petroleum** 3p to 123p, **Imperial Continental Gas** 5p to 273p, **London & Scottish Marine Oil** 2p to 313p, after 306p, **Shell** 6p to 625p, **Tricentrol** 5p to 193p and **Ultramar** 8p to 664p. Fears that the Gulf of Hormuz would be sealed have now eased.

Only the volatile Irish exploration stocks could find any worthwhile support after their shakeout this week. **Atlantic Resources** led the way with a leap 55p to 503p followed by **Aran Energy** 5p to 67p, and **Eglington** 10p to 335p, after 345p.

On the takeover front, **London Brick** added 7p to 168p – 3p above the bid from Hanson Trust – after unconfirmed reports of a dawn raid by the stockbroker Rowe & Pitman. Market rumours suggested they were acting on behalf of Charter Consolidated, but Charter does not comment on market rumours.

The broker Stock Beech is placing 433,503 shares in the Bristol elecrical wholesaler Denmans Electrical at 162p a share. This represents only 10.5 per cent of the total share capital and values the entire copany at £6.6m. Last year the group made pretax profits of £910,000 on turnover of £15.6m and for the current year a gross dividend of 5p yielding 3.08 per cent had been forecast. No new money is being raised by the placing.

Strong & Fisher rose 8p to 206p on renewed bid speculation, and there was similar, support for **Armour Trust** 2p highter at 36p.

TI Group ded 2p at 248p, after confirmation of its porposed trading link-up with the Swedish company Electrolux, which is thought to own about 3 per cent of TI's equity.

Fear that the tax problems surrounding the building societies would again postpone apossible cut in mortgage rates upset the retail sector, but the fears proved short-lived. **Woolworth** stood out with a 12p rise to 375p after recoverig form a fall of 2p. There were also rises of 2p in **Currys** at 288p and **Great Universal Stores "A"** at 570p.

On the Unlisted Securities Market, **A & M Hire**, the hire group, which specializes in antique furniture for the television and film world, held steady at 20½p after Mr Christopher Maclean, a director, announced he had sold 1 million shares. This reduces his holding to 15.75 million, or 25.8 per cent. Interim figures from the group showed pretax profits of £360,000, against £455,000 for the whole of 1982. A & M joined the USM in September after a placing of 5 million shares by Le Mare, Martin the Stockbroker at 10p each.

Also on the USM **Fitch & Company** the interior designer, has landed another lucrative contract. This time it is with Associated Dairies which has asked Fitch to draw up a few ideas. Fitch greeted the news with a rise of 15p to 275p.

Sun Chemical Corporations decision to stad in the market and bid 64p a share for shares of **Ault & Wiborg**, the printing inks supplier, has yielded a total of 2.87 million shares. This takes its total holding up to 62.6 per cent of the issued share capital. Ault ended the day unchanged at 47p. Mantague Loebl the stockbroker has been looking at the construction industry, paying particular attention to **John Mowlem**, unchanged at 230p, and **French Kier** 1p dearer at 133p. Montague is looking for a further advance in this year's profits to about £12m for Mowlem, putting the shares on a price/earnings ratio of only 7:7. A healthy balance sheet and the prospect of continued growth next year still offers further buying opportunities.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton;
Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Apl	840-30
May	832-27
Apl/Jne	830-27
Jne/Sep	859-56
Oct/Dec	875-84
Jan/Mch	894-89
Apl/Jne	915-05
Jne/Sep	940-30
Oct/Dec	975-71
SUGAR	
Mch	173.60 buyer
May	182.80-183.00
Aug	194.40-194.60
Oct	201.20 seller
Dec	206.20-207.00
Mar	223.20-223.40
May	239.20-231.80
COCOA	
Mar	1699-97
May	1707-05
July	1705-04
Sep	1700-98
Mar	1703-00
May	1702-00
Vol: 7,838.	
COFFEE	
Mar	2060-58
May	1929-28
July	1858-57
Sep	1815-13
Nov	1785-81
Jan	1763-49
Mar	1719-1716
Vol:	3,289
GAS OIL	
Feb	244.50-243.50
Mar	242.25-242.00
Apl	240.75-240.50
May	238.50-238.25
Jun	237.75-237.50
Jul	239.00-238.00
Aug	240.80-240.00
Sept	243.00-342.00
Oct	248.00-241.75
Vol: 1 664	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Unofficial prices:
Official turnover figures. Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	975.50-76.50
Three months	996.50-97.00
T/O	5,400
Tone: Steadier.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	965.50-66.50
Three months	985.50-986.50 T/O nil
Tone: Idle.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash 8398-8400 Three months 8520-8400	
T/O:	790
Tone: Easy.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8420-40
Three months	8540-60
T/O:	nil
Tone: Idle.	
LEAD	
Cash	275-00-76
Three months	284.0-85.0
T/O:	2,000
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	675.50-76
Three months	670-71
T/O:	2,275
Tone: Barely steady.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	655.0-56.0
Three months	670.5-71
T/O:	24
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER SMALL	
Cash	655-56.0
Three months	670.5-71.0
T/O:	nil
Tone: Idle.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	991.0-92.00
Three months	1014.50-15.00
T/O:	13,400
Tone: Firmer.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3141-44
Three months	3212-14
T/O:	390
Tone: Barely steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Mar	395.00-397.00
Apl	399.70-400.00
Jun	406.20-406.40
Aug	413.00-414.00
Oct	420.00-421.00
Dec	426.50-428.00

Tone: Quiet. Volume: 477.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Mar'84	76	4295
Jun	–	4335
Sep	–	–
Comment: Steady.		
STERLING		
Mar'84	661	1.4678
Jun	76	1.4715
Sept	–	1.4755
Comment: Improved.		
D-MARK		
Mar'84	384	3808
Jun	50	3847
Sep	–	3883
Comment: Well-bid.		
SWISS FRANC		
Mar'84	15	4605
Jun	18	4674
Sep	–	–
Comment: Firmer.		
EURODOLLARS		
Mar'84	731	8997
Jun	2996	8947
Sep	226	8914
Dec	57	8886
Mar	–	8860
Comment: Recovering.		
SHORT STERLING		
Mar'84	13	9091
Jun	278	9068
Sep	170	9048
Dec	–7	9031
Mar'85	20	9006
Comment: Very quiet.		
GILTS		
Mar'84	2166	10216
Jun	153	10802
Sep	–	10716
Dec	–	10702
Mar'85	–	10618
Comment: Mixed.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 23:
GB: Cattle, 94.43p per kg lw (+0.25).
GB: Sheep, 196.91p per kg est d c w (+0.29).
GB: Pigs, 86.29p per kg lw (–5.99).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. up 7.0 per cent, ave. price, 94 08p (–10.12).
Sheep nos. down 5.7 per cent, ave. price, 196.44p (–1.24).
Pig nos. up 3.8 per cent, ave. price, 86.29p (+6.99).
Scotland:
Cattle nos down 18.1 per cent, ave. price, 96.31p (+2.12).
Sheep nos. up 3.5 per cent, ave. price 198.15p (+4.67).

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
Mar	£121.40	119.90
May	£123.90	120.40
Jly	£125.95	–
Sep	£108.90	105.60
Nov	£111.45	108.65
Jan	£114.35	111.65

Total lots traded
Wheat: 243
Barley: 54

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates softened a little yesterday, encouraged by firmness of the pound. Business was only moderate, and there were no apparent repercussions from the reported heavy sales of gilts by building societies overnight following the shock tax move.

Buyers mainly stuck to sterling certificates of deposit, in the one-to-six months area during the morning, though after lunch, a few ventured out to 11 and 12 months.

Interbank, overnight money mostly hovered -497, $9⅛%, but firmed to around 9½% during the afternoon, before dipping to 8% at the finish.

Dollar rates firmed a touch initially behind Dr Kaufman's latest warning on interest rate prospects, but eased back a trifle late in the day.

On the London discount market a continuing lack of eligible paper for sale to the authorities kept money rates firm, even though, at £350m, the shortage was pretty modest for a Friday.

The Bank of England finally gave generous assistance of £387m, although it needed to resort to sale-and repurchase agreements on £187m of bills to the March 28 at a rate of interest of 9% to achieve this. The bank bought outright £200m of bills across the four bans at established rates.

The Bank of England initially forecast a shortfall of some £300m, indicating a drain on market liquidity of £184m via maturing assistance and take-up of Treasury Bills, and of £230m through increased note circulation offset to some extent by a £110m surplus on Exchequer transactions.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Another good week for the pound against an easier dollar saw sterling close below its best of the day of 1.4735, at 1.4715, still up 90 points it was last above 1.47 on November 23. The closing trade weighted index was down 0.1 at 82.6, reflecting easier rates to continentals.

Centime up on Swiss francs at 3.2050 and firmer to the yen. 343.25 (341.50).

Sterling had opened at a higher level and pushed above 1.47 to opeak of 1.4735 before an Iranian statement that the Straits of Hormuz would be kept clear, sent it down 70 points very swiftly. It recovered to move about 1.47 again in late trade

Recovering some of its value against Europeans at the close, the pound finished ½ a pfennig down on the DM 3.8725, 3¼ centimes lower to French francs at 11.92, a Dutch cent off the guilder at 4.3725 but ½ a centime up on Swiss francs at 3.2050 and firmer to the yen, 343.25 (341.50)

هكذا من الأصل

Property sale helps to more than double Compco profits

More than doubled pretax profits are reported by Compco Holdings, the Edinburgh property investment and development concern, for the half-year to September 25, 1983. They climbed from £199,000 to £469,000, while earnings per share also more than doubled, to 10.9p, against 4.52p last time.

Net rental income showed only a slight rise, from £274,000 to £279,000. But, this year, there was a profit of £266,000 on the sale of property, while there was no similar profit last time.

However, the board reports that no further sales of this kind are envisaged in the second half-year, during which rental income is expected to be comparable with the previous year.

Compco's pretax profits reached a record of £486,000 in 1981-82, but then fell £298,000 in the following year.

In brief

● **Electronic Machine:** Mr Peter Anninos, the chairman, told the annual meeting that the current year should show pleasing progress. However, the early months had been held back by further trading difficulties in the precision engineering offshoot. These had largely been overcome but the main benefit should not be expected until the second half of the year.

Certain big orders are in course of negotiation.

The contract for the sale of the property at Thornton Heath, south east London, is due for completion this month. The proceeds of about £200,000 should, for the first time in memory, put the group into the black with its bankers.

● **TR Energy** is to take over the oil and gas interests of Interoil Inc., a subsidiary of TR Pacific Basin Investment Trust. The assets have been acquired with effect from Oct. 1, 1983; the total value price is £756,000, satisfied by the issue of 1.8 million shares int TR. This will be about 8.3 per cent of the enlarged capital. Completion is expected by March 12.

● **Hill and Smith Holdings:** Mr John Silk, the chairman, reports in his annual statement that steel stock-holding remains in a depressed state. This division will, at best, make only a small contribution to the profit for the first half-year and there is nothing to indicate that there will be any significant change in the second half.

Demand for Hill's fabricated products in the form of road safety barriers, security fencing and steel lintels is good and if demand remains at, or near the present levels, the contribution for the year from the fabrication division will be substantial.

● **Squibb Corporation** reports record sales and earnings for the fourth quarter and the year.

In 1983, sales rose 7 per cent to $1,768.9m (£1,210m). Excluding the effect of exchange rate fluctuation, sales would have increased by 12 per cent in 1983. Profit from operations rose 22 per cent to $255.6m and income before extraordinary items rose 13 per cent to £173.3m. Earnings per share reached $3.30, up from $3.01 in 1982.

● **Francis Parker – Tarmac:** As the recommended offers by Tarmac Roadstone for Francis Parker have become unconditional and as acceptances have been received over 90 per cent of the ordinary and the deferred shares of Parker, Tarmac Roadstone intends to compulsorily acquire the remainder.

● **Watsham's** reports that pretax profits rose from £537,000 to £603,000 in the half-year to September 30, 1983. Turnover expanded from £2.92m to £3.43m. The interim payment, net, is going up from 3.75p to 4.12p a share: earnings per share rose from 12.5p to 14p. Watsham's makes products for optical, instrumentation and industrial safety industries.

● **Bell Resources/BHP:** The partial bid for Broken Hill Proprietary of Australia by Bell Resources will close on Monday with about 8 million acceptances. The tender offer for 16 million shares will end after five trading days, regardless of the outcome of BHP's challenge to the bid in the Victorian Supreme Court.

● **Don Brothers, Buist:** Half-year to Nov 25, 1983. Interim payment raised from 1.25p to 1.5p net a share. Figures in £000. Turnover 17,095 (12,603). Trading profit 784 (320). Grants 75 (77). Pretax profit 859 (397). Tax 447 (169). Earnings per ordinary share 6.3p (3.5p).

Electrolux in talks on TI merger

By Andrew Cornelius

TI Group, one of Britain's leading engineering companies, and Electrolux, the Swedish white goods manufacturer, are discussing a possible merger of their domestic appliance interests.

Sir Brian Kellett, chairman of TI, met Mr Werthen, chairman of Electrolux, for preliminary discussions in London yesterday. Electrlux, confirmed at the meeting that it is the mystery bidder behind the recent rising TI share price and has acquired a 3 per cent stake in the British group.

Sir Brian said he had been informed that Electrolux had no present intention of adding to its holding or making a takeover bid. The next step would be to establish a joint working group to study possible common interests in the field of domestic appliances. This would be followed by a further meeting between the two chairmen.

TI and Electrolux have cooperated before. TI has marketed Electrolux vacuum cleaners and refrigerators, while Electrolux has marketed TI washing machines.

A merger of the two domestic appliance businesses "is obviously possible," said Sir Brian, but warned that "equally nothing may come of discussions."

Speculation of a possible takeover bid for TI began two weeks ago after heavy trading of TI shares on the London stock market.

Booker sells drink business for £40m

By Jonathan Clare

Booker McConnell has sold its entire wines, spirits and liquers business – which includes the Tia Maria and Lamb's Navy Rum brands – to Allied-Lyons for more than £40m.

This followed an approach by Allied to Booker which has been streamlining its business to concentrate on food distribution, agriculture and health foods.

The sale will leave Booker with a much reduced interest in the Caribbean, which was once one of its most important trading areas.

The City had expected that the drinks interests would be kept alongside the food distribution business which includes the Budgen supermarkets and Bishops Group stores.

Yesterday, Mr Michael Caine, Booker's chairman, said the sale was not opportunistic but resulted from a re-appraisal of the drink business' future.

He said: "The price offered was extremely attractive. Looking ahead we could see increasing distribution costs and, therefore, economies of scale could only be achieved within a bigger business. This meant either selling it or expanding it."

Tia Maria, a coffee liquer, has been extremely successful but Mr Caine believed that the period of rapid growth was over. He also said that dark rum's share of the market had declined from 6 per cent to 4 per cent between 1972 and 1982.

The deal is in two parts: Allied is buying the wholly-owned subsidiaries, United Rum Merchants and European Vintners, for £25.1m cash raised through a placing of 17.6 million shares. It is also buying Booker's 51 per cent interest in Tia Maria and Estate Industries for £14.7m but subject to agreement by the Caribbean minority shareholders which have first refusal on Booker's stake.

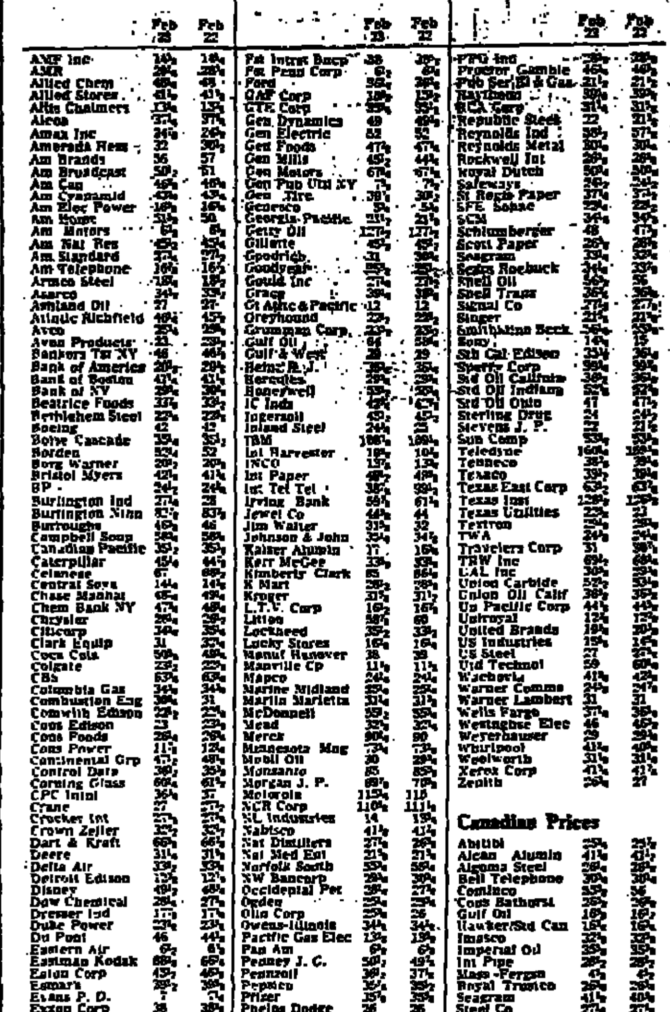
£14.4m United Glass loss

United Glass lost £14.4m last year, it was announced yesterday. The losses compare with a deficit of £5.3m the year before and were struck after charging redundancy payments of £12.5m

United Glass, a big manufacturer of glass and plastic containers, is jointly owned by the Distillers Company and Owens-Illinois.

It said that as a result of action taken over the last year to improve efficiency and liquidity, the company is now in a better position to operate competitively despite difficult trading conditions which are expected to persist.

The glass container division operated profitably during the second half of the year at the trading level.



WALL STREET

	Feb 23	Feb 22		Feb 23	Feb 22		Feb 23	Feb 22
AMF Inc	14¼	14¼	Fst Intrst Bncp	38	38½	PPG Ind	38⅝	38⅝
AMR	29⅝	29¾	Fst Penn Corp	6½	6¼	Proctor Gamble	46⅞	46¼
Allied Chem	49¼	49	Ford	38½	38½	Pub Ser El & Gas	21½	21½
Allied Stores	41⅛	41½	GAF Corp	18⅝	15½	Raytheon	39⅝	39⅜
Allis Chalmers	13¾	13½	GTE Corp	39⅝	39½	RCA Corp	31⅛	31½
Alcoa	37¾	37⅞	Gen Dynamics	49	49⅛	Republic Steel	22	21⅞
Amax Inc	24⅝	24½	Gen Electric	52	52	Reynolds Ind	58½	57⅞
Amerada Hess	32	30½	Gen Foods	47⅝	47¾	Reynolds Metal	30⅝	30⅛
Am Brands	56	57	Gen Mills	45½	44⅞	Rockwell Int	28⅝	28⅝
Am Broadcast	50½	51	Gen Motors	67⅞	67⅞	Royal Dutch	50⅝	50⅛
Am Can	46⅝	46¾	Gen Pub Util NY	7⅛	7½	Safeways	34½	34½
Am Cyanamid	43¾	43¼	Gen Tire	30⅞	30½	St Regis Paper	37¼	37⅞
Am Elec Power	16⅝	16¾	Genesco	5⅛	5⅛	SFE Sopac	22⅝	22⅝
Am Home	51⅝	50	Georgia Pacific	23½	23⅛	SCM	34⅛	34⅞
Am Motors	6⅞	6⅞	Getty Oil	127½	127½	Schlumberger	48	47½
Am Nat Res	45½	45¾	Gillette	45⅛	45½	Scott Paper	26½	26⅜
Am Standard	37¾	37½	Goodrich	31	30⅝	Seagram	33⅞	32⅞
Am Telephone	16⅛	16⅝	Goodyear	25½	25⅝	Sears Roebuck	34⅛	33⅝
Armco Steel	18¼	18½	Gould Inc	27¼	27½	Shell Oil	56½	56
Asarco	34½	33½	Grace	39¼	39⅜	Shell Trans	36⅞	36⅝
Ashland Oil	27	27	Gt Atlntc & Pacific	12	12	Signal Co	27⅞	27⅞
Atlantic Richfield	46¾	45½	Greyhound	22½	22½	Singer	21⅞	21⅞
Avco	25⅝	25¾	Grumman Corp.	23½	23½	Smithkline Beck	56⅝	55⅞
Avon Products	23	23½	Gulf Oil	64	59⅝	Sony	14⅝	15
Bankers Tst NY	46	46⅝	Gulf & West	29	29	Sth Cal Edison	35⅞	36⅛
Bank of America	20½	20⅞	Heinz H. J.	36	35⅛	Sperry Corp	39⅝	39⅝
Bank of Boston	41⅞	41½	Hercules	29⅝	29⅝	Std Oil California	36½	36⅛
Bank of NY	29⅝	30⅛	Honeywell	55½	55⅝	Std Oil Indiana	52⅝	52⅝
Beatrice Foods	33⅞	33½	IC Inds	42⅝	42⅞	Std Oil Ohio	47	47½
Bethlehem Steel	22⅞	22⅝	Ingersoll	43½	45½	Sterling Drug	24	24½
Boeing	42	42	Inland Steel	24⅝	25	Stevens J. P.	22	21⅞
Boise Cascade	35¼	35½	IBM	108⅞	108⅞	Sun Comp	53⅞	53⅞
Borden	53¾	52	Int Harvester	10⅝	10⅝	Teledyne	160⅛	158⅝
Borg Warner	20½	20⅞	INCO	13⅞	13⅞	Tenneco	38⅞	39⅛
Bristol Myers	42⅞	41⅞	Int Paper	48½	48⅞	Texaco	39½	39⅛
BP	24½	24¾	Int Tel Tel	38⅛	39⅛	Texas East Corp	63½	63⅞
Burlington Ind	27⅞	28	Irving Bank	59⅞	61⅛	Texas Inst	128⅝	129⅞
Burlington Nthn	82½	83⅞	Jewel Co	44⅝	44	Texas Utilities	22⅞	23
Burroughs	46⅝	46	Jim Walter	31⅝	32	Textron	35⅝	35⅞
Campbell Soup	58⅝	58¾	Johnson & John	35⅛	34⅞	TWA	24⅝	24⅝
Canadian Pacific	35½	35⅛	Kaiser Alumin	17	16⅝	Travelers Corp	31	30⅞
Caterpillar	45⅛	44⅞	Kerr McGee	33⅞	33⅝	TRW Inc	69½	68¼
Celanese	67	68½	Kimberly Clark	85	86⅛	UAL Inc	30⅝	29⅞
Central Sova	14¼	14⅛	K Mart	28½	28⅝	Union Carbide	52½	53⅛
Chase Manhat	46¼	49¼	Kroger	31⅞	31½	Union Oil Calif	38½	35⅞
Chem Bank NY	47⅞	48¼	L.T.V. Corp	16½	16⅞	Un Pacific Corp	44⅞	44⅝
Chrysler	26¼	26½	Litton	58⅞	60	Uniroyal	12⅞	12⅝
Citicorp	34¼	35¼	Lockheed	35½	33⅞	United Brands	10⅞	10½
Clark Equip	31	32¾	Lucky Stores	16⅛	16⅛	US Industries	15⅞	15⅛
Coca Cola	50⅝	49⅝	Manuf Hanover	38	39	US Steel	27	27⅜
Colgate	23½	22½	Manville Cp	11⅛	11⅛	Utd Technol	59	60⅛
CBS	63⅞	63¾	Mapco	24¼	24¼	Wachovia	41⅞	42⅞
Columbia Gas	34⅛	34⅛	Marine Midland	25⅛	25⅞	Warner Commns	24⅝	24⅞
Combustion Eng	30⅝	31	Martin Marietta	31¼	31⅞	Warner Lambert	31	31
Comwlth Edison	22½	22¾	McDonnell	55½	55⅝	Wells Fargo	37⅛	38⅝
Cons Edison	23	23⅜	Mead	32⅞	32⅛	Westnghse Elec	46	46⅞
Cons Foods	26¼	26⅞	Merck	90⅝	90	Weyerhauser	29	29⅝
Cons Power	11½	12¼	Minnesota Mng	73⅞	73⅞	Whirlpool	41⅛	40⅝
Continental Grp	47½	48⅞	Mobil Oil	30	29⅝	Woolworth	31⅛	31⅛
Control Data	36½	35⅞	Monsanto	85	85⅞	Xerox Corp	41⅞	41⅞
Corning Glass	60¼	61½	Morgan J. P.	69½	70⅛	Zenith	26⅜	27
CPC Intnl	36⅛	37	Motorola	115¾	118			
Crane	27	27½	NCR Corp	110⅝	111⅛			
Crocker Int	27⅛	27⅞	NL Industries	14	15⅛	**Canadian Prices**		
Crown Zeller	32½	32½	Nabisco	41½	41¼			
Dart & Kraft	66⅝	66¾	Nat Distillers	27⅛	26½	Abitibi	25⅛	25½
Deere	31⅝	31⅝	Nat Med Ent	21⅞	21⅞	Alcan Alumin	41⅛	41½
Delta Air	33½	33⅞	Norfolk South	55⅞	58⅛	Algoma Steel	28¼	28⅞
Detroit Edison	12⅞	12½	NW Bancorp	29⅝	30¼	Bell Telephone	30¼	30¼
Disney	49½	48⅞	Occidental Pet	28⅛	27⅞	Cominco	55⅞	56
Dow Chemical	28¼	27¾	Ogden	25⅛	25¾	Cons Bathurst	26⅝	26⅞
Dresser Ind	17½	17¾	Olin Corp	25⅞	26	Gulf Oil	16½	16½
Duke Power	23¾	23⅞	Owens-Illinois	34⅛	34⅛	Hawker/Sid Can	15⅞	16⅛
Du Pont	46	44½	Pacific Gas Elec	13⅞	13⅞	Imasco	32⅞	32⅞
Eastern Air	6½	6⅞	Pan Am	6⅛	6⅞	Imperial Oil	35⅞	35⅞
Eastman Kodak	68¼	65¾	Penney J. C.	50½	49⅞	Int Pipe	28½	28⅞
Eaton Corp	43½	46⅞	Pennzoil	36½	37⅞	Mass-Ferguson	4⅞	4⅞
Esmark	29½	30⅛	Pepsico	36¼	35½	Royal Trustco	26⅛	26⅛
Evans P. D.	7	7¼	Pfizer	35⅞	35½	Seagram	41⅛	40⅞
Exxon Corp	38	38⅛	Phelps Dodge	26	26	Steel Co	27⅞	27⅛
Fed Dept Stores	50⅝	51	Philip Morris	67½	67⅞	Thomson N 'A'	31½	37½
Firestone	16⅞	16⅝	Phillips Petrol	41½	41⅞	Walker Hiram	25½	25½
Fst Chicago	25⅝	25⅛	Polaroid	28⅝	27⅞	WCT	14½	14⅛

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

APPOINTMENTS

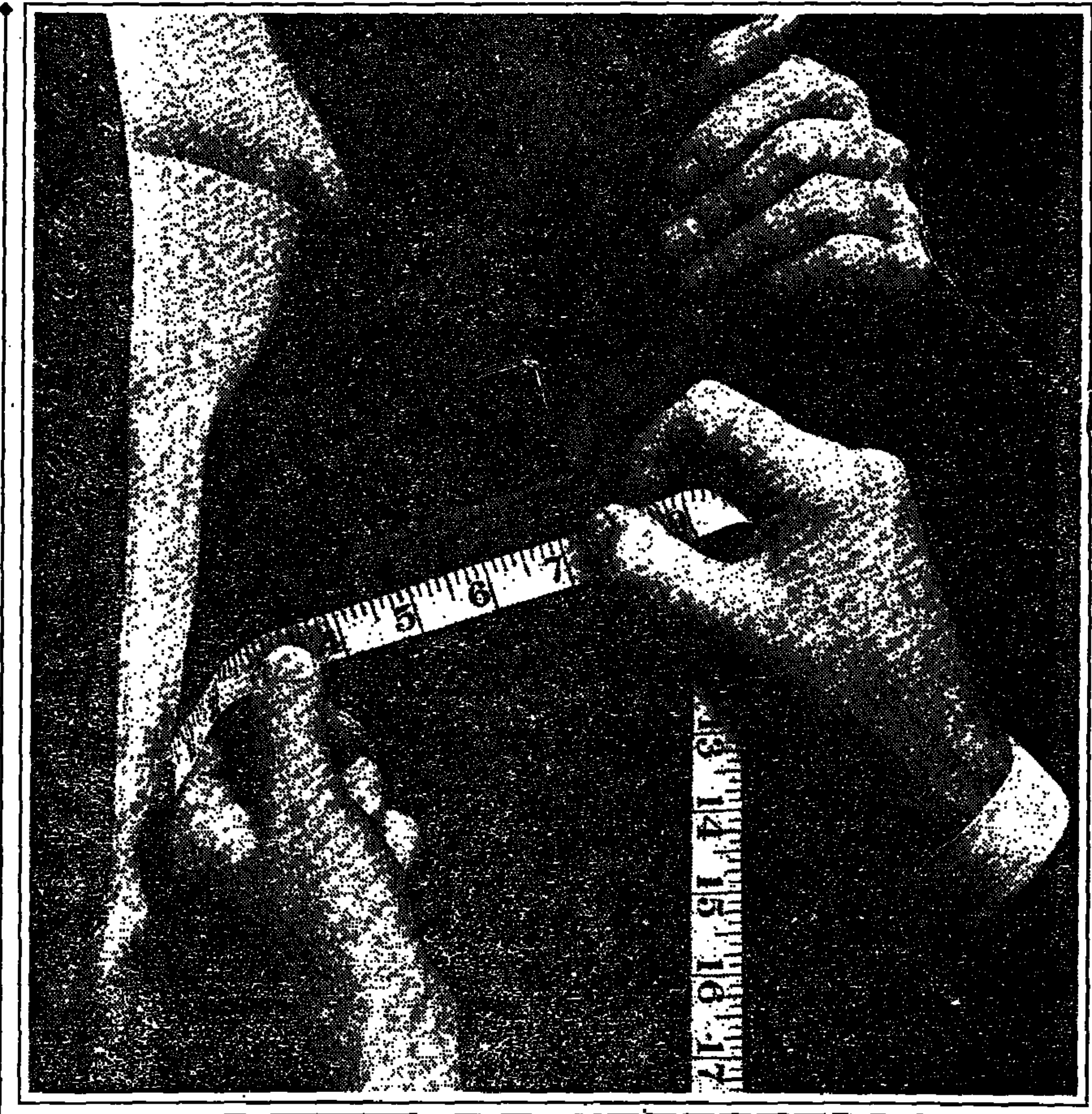
Hoare Govett names Hongkong chief

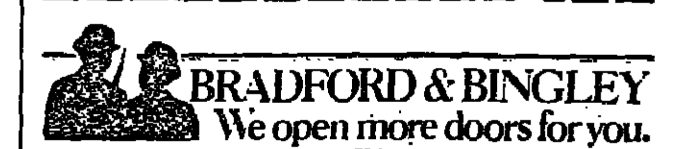
Hoare Govett (Far East): Mr Peter Lord has been appointed managing-director designate based in Hongkong, succeeding Mr Nigel Johnson–Hill who is to return to head office in London. Mr M J H Brade has been appointed Hoare Govett's chief representative in Tokyo, replacing Mr Charles Edmonds who is to take up a senior position in the London international department.

Richards, Longstaff (Holdings): Mr A T Stevenson and Mr J Heneghan have joined the company to form a reinsurance division, and both have been appointed to the board of Richards, Longstaff (Insurance) together with Mr R C Rickard. Messers B McKenna, S M Searle, J G Ruck Keene and G G Watson have been appointed directors of Richards, Longstaff Ltd; Mr P D Duckling is to be a director of Richards, Longstaff (Insurance) Overseas Division; Mr P R Churchill and Mr P Peatow are to be directors of Richards, Longstaff (Insurance) and Mr G R W Carter and Mr R M Smith are to be associate directors of Richards, Longstaff Ltd.

HOW TO TURN £5,500 INTO £13,470 IN 10 YEARS*

Initial Investment	Scheme	Value after 10 years
£1,800	Prosperity Share	£4,977
£1,200	Linkshare	£2,736
£900	High Yield SAYE (Transferred to Extra Interest after 7 years)	£4,411
£1,000	Extra Interest Account (with access)	
£600	Premium Access Account	£1,346
£5,500		£13,470





Mortgages

Banks still offer a better deal

Lower mortgage rates from the building societies now do not look so likely Thus the banks still offer a much more competitive package.

Most offer 0.25 per cent less than 11.25 per cent that the societies charge. The banks claim that on an APR basis the societies look even less appealing: *they say the home owner is* in effect paying an extra 0.5 per cent above the quoted building society rate.

One of the most attractive aspects of a home loan from the bank is that the banks welcome bigger mortgages and do not charge a premium rate for them as do the building societies. The banks nearly all have a £100,000 loan limit, but so long as the mortgagee can show he can meet repayments and has been a customer of the bank for six months, he can be lent anything up to 80 per cent of the property's value. Bank loans may also take less time to arrange than the average building society loan.

One snag of going to your bank, though, is that there is an arrangement fee which the building societies do not charge.

Barclays says that about 20 per cent of its mortgages are for £60,000 and above, and will lend up to 2½ times the main income plus one times the lower

Hilaire Gomer

Fringe benefits

Luncheon vouchers, free parking in the office car park, a company flat, medical fees insurance – these and other perks are reviewed in the latest guide from the Institute of Chartered Accountants under the title *Fringe Benefits*.

The current United Kingdom taxation of fringe benefits is dealt with in detail – particularly the taxation of motor cars and fuel, beneficial loan arrangements and share acquisitions together with recent amendments to the law on scholarships provision and payment of directors' PAYE.

The booklet (56 pages) is available from the Publications Department, The Institute of Chartered Accountants, PO Box 433, Moorgate Place, London EC2P 2BJ. Price £5.

Skipton auto-cash

Skipton Building Society is one of the latest – albeit smallest – building societies to offer credit cards to its members. Skipton is linking up with Barclaycard to give members 24 hours a day access to cash through the Barclays automated teller machines.

There will be no joining fee for those applying for a Barclaycard nor will they have to open a special Skipton account. They will, however, have to meet the normal credit-rating criteria.

Be a farmer

Yet another opportunity to get tax relief on buying a stake in a farm – this time from New Farm Estates. One-pound shares in New Farm Estates are on offer at £2.10 each and the investment should be eligible for tax relief under the Business Expansion Scheme, says New Farm.

"New Farm Estates invests purely in land for reclamation and improvement and the company's first acquisition of land has shown a satisfactory increase in value following reclamation and improvement work, says the company.

The purpose of the issue is to provide additional funds for the continued expansion of farming activities. Details from New Farm Estates, 32 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9FF.

Society mergers

The number of building society mergers continues to escalate and is likely to increase still further after the enforced closure of New Cross. There were 273 societies at the end of 1981. The total dropped to 227 by the end of 1983.

Bonus at the Co-op

It's amazing what some people will do to save money. Ilkeston Co-op offers members a 10 per cent reduction on holidays booked through its travel department. In addition, members get a £5 voucher usable in the "non-food" division of the society, for every £50 spent on the holiday.

"We regularly book summer cruises to the Caribbean for a member who lives in Andorra and this one member travelled from Inverness, where he lived, to Ilkeston to pick up his free video – cassette recorder said Mr Kenneth Scott *of the Ilkestone Co-op*.

"He clearly thought that in spite of the distance he had to cover, it was worthwhile booking his holiday with us rather than with his local travel agent."

Insurance drive

Monday sees the start of Motor Insurance Week, sponsored by the British Insurance Brokers Association (Biba) to encourage motorists to discuss their insurance needs with an insurance broker.

Mr Michael Morris, director-general of Biba, said: "There are about 20 million licensed vehicles on the roads in Britain today, and each must by law be driven only by someone who has insured his liability against injuries to a third party, including his passengers. By far the best person to find the right policy at the right price for any particular driver is an insurance broker".

Long loans

A three-year income bond paying 8.25 per cent net of basic rate tax is available from the insurers British National Life with 9 per cent on offer for six, seven and eight-year investments. Details from British National Life Assurance Company, British National House, Harlands Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1TD.



The new silver dollar from the Royal Canadian Mint

Silver dollar

The Royal Canadian Mint issues a silver dollar annually and this year's coin marks the 150th anniversary of Toronto. The coin, which costs £18.50 for a proof coin or £13.50 for brilliant (extra shiny), shows the Toronto skyline with the distinctive CN tower – the Canadian version of the Post Office tower.

The coin will be minted until the end of November. In the Queen's silver jubilee year, 700,000 were minted but last year when the coin celebrated university students' sports only 340,000 were produced. Students are not too popular with numismatists.

The 23.33 gramme coins are half silver and half copper and are being marketed in Britain by direct mail advertising.

Guide to listing

It's much cheaper to be quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market than to go for a full Stock Exchange listing. Arthur Andersen, the accountant, has just updated its excellent *Guide to the Unlisted Securities Market* which provides background information and lists technical requirements for obtaining a USM quote.

The guide looks at the tax advantages and accounting and reporting requirements as well as the practical aspects of market entry. The book is available from Arthur Andersen's Publications Department, 1 Surrey Street, WC2R 2PS.

Golden future

The price of gold has bottomed out, according to Mr Michael Long of the stockbrokers Sheppards & Chase.

Although a strong dollar, low inflation and high interest rates at present dominate the market, Mr Long believes the gold price may be set to turn.

Assuming there is a correlation between the price of gold and the strength of te dollar, the latter's decline is inevitable against the backdrop of a record US Federal deficit of $200,000m (£138,000m) and a record trading deficit of at least $100,000m. Mr Long says in this month's *Krugerrand Bulletin*. Mr Long believes that the consequence will be a dollar that will fall out of favour, setting the scene for a steady appreciation in the gold price this year.

Hospital on the BES

An investment in a private hospital at Little Aston, Staffordshire, is the latest deal seeking finance under the Business Expansion Scheme. Guinness Mahon is issuing the prospectus, which is offering 1.3 million £1 shares at £1.80 each. Tax relief is available on up to £40,000 invested in a BES scheme. The offer will close no later than March 30.

Policy sale

The auctioneers Foster and Cranfield are holding one of their periodic sales of life assurance policies, annuities and interests in trusts on Thursday. At these sales beneficiaries of trusts are prepared to sell their interests, policyholders put their life assurance up for sale to the highest bidder rather than surrender it, and the buyer can acquire an interest in someone else's life policy or family trust. Full details from Foster and Cranfield, 6 Poultry, London EC2R 8ET.

Disability plea

The cost of raising a mentally-handicapped child can be as high as £130,000, reports the Disablement Income Group, compared with £70,000 for a non-disabled child.

The group is calling for a "national disability income" to compensate parents.

Lagging behind

Insurance brokers are behind other industries in the use of new technology, according to a survey by Taylor Nelson Financial.

It says that insurance brokers' usage and planning for computer-based quotes compares unfavourably with other industries such as travel agents.

The survey says that "although there has been considerable publicity and discussion about computer-based quoting, and facilities have been available for years through bureaux or to company branches, only one in three broker establishments has such facilites".

The survey, which covers both registered brokers and non-registered insurance consultants, adds that computer quoting is used more by brokers in the North of England and Scotland than in other parts of the country. "But less surprisingly, it was used more for general insurance quotes than for life assurance."

Pensions warning

One third of the country's self-employed could face a harsh retirement because they have no pension, according to a survey commissioned by Commercial Union.

A total of 35 per cent of the country's self-employed have no pension to look forward to and more than 20 per cent of those with pension plans are not putting enough into them, the survey reveals.

Clearly a high proportion of the 35 per cent who are currently making no provision for retirement will be at the lower end of the age scale – almost certainly under the age of 40. But it has been calculated that unless you put away in a pension plan the maximum allowable for the whole of your working life, after the age of 44, a self-employed person cannot hope to retire on the two-thirds final salary that employed people may enjoy.

"From our survey, most self-employed people appear to expect 60 to 70 per cent of their pre-retirement earnings as a pension, but few are making the necessary financial commitment to provide this," commented Mr Peter Ward, of Commercial Union.

Taxing the poor

The poor in Britain are taxed more heavily than anywhere else in Europe, according to a Low Pay Unit report, which shows that taxes have reached record levels, and that most of this increased tax burden has fallen on those with below-average earnings. The report says: "While the wealthy have enjoyed substantial tax cuts, the number of families caught in the poverty trap has more than doubled."

Setting the Record Straight, available from the Low Pay Unit, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DT, price £1.20 including postage.

Hints for elderly

Given the choice, most people would prefer to stay put in their own homes as they get older, rather than go to an old people's institution.

Help for Older Home Owners, published by Age Concern, gives useful hints on repairs and maintenance, heating and insulation, adaptations to make life easier, the raising the finance for essentials. It also contains a useful list of addresses and is available from the Marketing Department, Age Concern, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 3LL (price 55p including post).

Trusts for income

Two unit trusts designed to provide income and capital growth have been launched this week – Warburg's Mercury Income Fund and Save & Prosper's American Income and Growth Fund.

Warburg's fund aims to produce its income and growth mainly from British equities, while the Save & Prosper fund will be invested in US convertible bonds, preference shares adn traded options. Convertibles are less volatile than the underlying ordinary shares and should give investors the opportunity for steady income and capital growth.

The Save & Prosper fund will be invested largely in technology, health care, specialist retailing, entertainment and cyclical stocks, and will be 50 per cent hedged against currency fluctuations.

Initial gross yield on the Mercury fund will be 6 per cent, while Save & Prosper is going for 5.5 per cent on its trust.

Investment

Offshore funds win tax relief

Investors in offshore commodity and venture capital funds have been granted substantial relief from the draconian measures introduced as part of the clampdown on tax avoidance.

The tax changes introduced last November were disigned to stem the massive export of capital into the offshore "roll-up" funds which turned highly-taxed income into capital gains. But because they applied to all offshore funds, they had the effect of making commodity funds and venture capital funds so unattractive to private investors that fund managers feared wholesale withdrawals.

Under the changes undistributed income "rolled up" within the fund was subject to income tax rates, rather than capital gains tax rates

But modifications announced this week by Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, mean that only half the profits from commodity trading will have to be distributed and taxed as income. The remaining 50 per cent will be rolled up as before and taxed at the more advantageous capital gains tax rates."

Venture capital funds were caught by the requirement that not more than 10 per cent of their portfolio could be invested in any one company, if they wanted to qualify for exemption from the new regulations and obtain "distributor" status.

Distributor status is an Inland Revenue clean bill of health which certifies that they are distributing all thier income and not rolling it up, and gives the fund expemption from the new rules. From now, it will be possible to take a stake in any non-financial company which at the time of the investment being make, is valued at no more than 20 per cent of the portfolio.

Offshore feeder funds which channel money into other offshore funds will be permitted to qualify for "distributor" status and so too will funds with subsidiary management companies.

"This is the first time that commodities have been granted favourable tax treatment," commented Mr Roger Butler, chairman of the British Federation of Commodity Associations.

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Building societies

Tax ruling dashes loan rate hopes

By Lorna Bourke

The tax bombshell dropped out of the blue on building societies is bad news for both building society investors and borrowers. At worst it could mean a 1 per cent cut in the investment rate from 7.25 per cent to 6.25 per cent with little or nor change for borrowers, who currently pay 11.25 per cent for home loans.

"The effect on building societies is going to be pretty substantial," commented Mr Brian Phillips, Nationwide Building Society's finance manager. "It is incredible that this decision has been taken without any consultation with the societies."

The bombshell arrived in the form of a letter from the Inland Revenue on Thursday announcing tax changes in the way building society's profits on Government stocks are treated. As a result, building societies estimate that their tax bill will more than double over the coming 12 months. That money can only come out of the pockets of building society savers and borrowers, and the likelihood of a substantial cut in home loan rates after the Budget is now very dim indeed.

What the Inland Revenue has said is that building societies will no longer pay capital gains tax on gilt profits. These will in future be taxed as trading profits at the special building society rate of 40 per cent.

Since most building societies managed to avoid CGT on gilt profits by hanging on to their Government stocks for the requisite year and a day (after which there is no liability to CGT), the effect of the Inland Revenue moves will be dramatic.

"It could mean that we need to widen our margins by as much as 1 per cent," commented one building society chief though the general feeling is that it will be somewhere between 0.5 per cent and 0.75 per cent.

Building society margins have been under pressure for some time with the introduction of 7-day and 28-day premium shares pushing up the average cost of societies' money. At this month's meeting of the Building Societies Association Council, there was considerable pressure to change rates there and then to widen operating margins.

In the event, the decision was postponed until after the Budget on March 13 to ensure that the Chancellor's pronouncements held no nasties for the societies. Even before this latest bombshell, they were looking for a 0.25 per cent improvement in their margins, and the extra tax charge will push this figure up to at least 0.5 per cent – possibly 0.75 per cent.

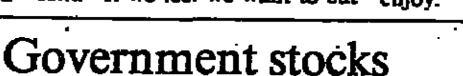
This could mean that the 1 per cent cut in home loan rates that some of the more aggressive building societies were looking for, will now be no more than 0.5 per cent.

"The interest rate hawks were looking for 1 per cent off the mortgage rate and 0.75 per cent off the investment rate", commented Mr Jim Birrell of Halifax Building Sciety. This would produce an investment rate of 6.5 per cent with homebuyers paying 10.25 per cent. "If we feel we want to cut the investment rate by 0.75 per cent, the maximum we could hope to reduce the mortgage rate now would be 0.5 per cent."

The most likely rate structure after the Budget will be a 10.75 per cent mortgage rate with a 6.25 per cent investment rate which would give the societies the 0.5 per cent improvements in their margins that they now need. The big dilemma is whether an investmet rate of 6.25 per cent with well over half of investors earning 7.25 per cent on "extra interest" accounts will produce sufficient cash to meet mortgage demand.

The grossed-up equivalent of an ordinary share rate of 6.25 per cent is only 8.9 per cent. The effect of such a rate structure would be to precipitate an outflow of money into National Savings Bank investment accounts which currently pay 11 per cent, or a wholesale switch from building society accounts into premium accounts paying 7.25 per cent, which again would destroy the societies operating margins.

More significantly, there are those who are interpreting the Inland Revenue's moves as a prelude to a hefty tax on bank profits in the Budget, and a possible abolition of the composite rate of tax paid by building societies. It is thought that the main trust of the Chancellor's Budget changes will be towards equalizing the tax treatment of financial institutions to do away with the special advantages that some enjoy.



Government stocks

Shake-up for gilt market

By Vivien Goldsmith

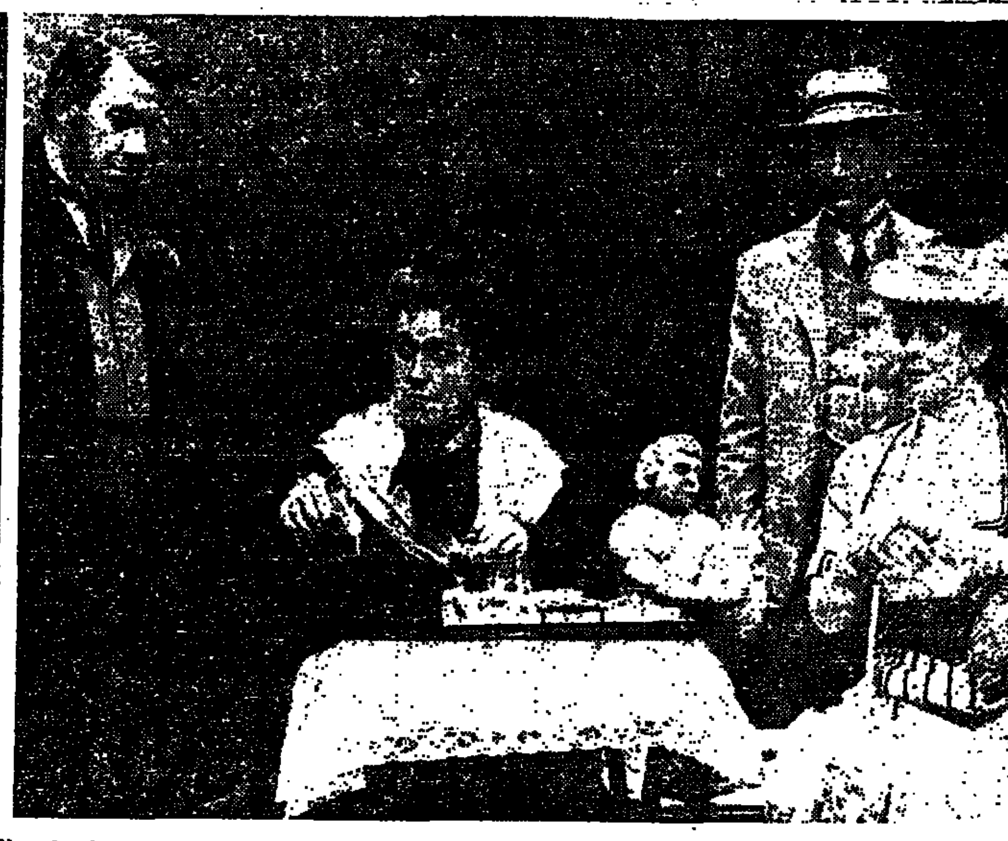
The Inland Revenue's unexpected tax bill for the building societies could have a significant effect on the gilt market, gilt unit trusts and gilt investors. Building societies hold approximately 25 per cent of all short dated government stocks and the changed tax status of these investments will precipitate a fundamental review of the societies' gilt portfolios.

What might such a reappraisal mean for gilt investors? The Inland Revenue's move to tax societies' gilt dealing profits at the special 40 per cent rate is seen as yet another nail in the tax avoidance coffin.

No matter what happens in the gilts market the capital growth gilt unit trusts have seen their heyday. The Inland Revenue has warned managers that if they deal too actively they will be classified as dealers, and that a dealing profits will be charged corporation tax rather than being completely tax free – a similar situation to that now imposed on the building societies.

As the climate of competition hots up on the Stock exchange and large institutions find they can negotiate lower dealing costs, then brokers' running costs may be off-loaded onto the small private investor.





Griff Rhys-Jones in Charley's Aunt and Ben Kingsley in Edmund Kean – both Lyric productions which went to the West End

Theatre

Investors offered a West End gamble

The Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, one of London's best-known community playhouses, is raising £100,000 to enable it to stage its most successful production in the West End. Theatre-lovers are invited to invest in the thrills and spills of West End theatre production through the Business Expansion Scheme – and get tax relief while doing it.

The Lyric is a charity subsidised by the borough of Hammersmith and the Greater London Council and is not permitted to take on the considerable financial risks of transferring a show to the West End.

In the past it has had to rely on outside commercial managements to do this in return for a modest fee and a small share of the royalties or profits. So it has formed Lyric Hammersmith Productions, a purely commercial company to reap more of the rewards. And, of course, more of the risks.

The Lyric's administrator, Mr Robert Cogo-Fawcett, said: "The Lyric is essentially a community theatre but we have a very good record of transfers to the West End. Forming a new company under the Business Expansion Scheme seemed the best way to exploit this success for the benefit of the Lyric itself, and investors.

"If we raise enough money to handle West End productions ourselves, we won't have to rely on a producer taking a liking to a show. We will be able to attract a better creative team if they know the play has a good chance of going to the West End under our own steam. Because we ourselves will be producing or co-producing we can plan a transfer much more economically."

"The new company will get all the profits if the show is a success. This will benefit the Lyric because it has a quarter shareholding." The company is already halfway to its £100,000 target.

But backing West End productions can be hazardous as Mr Cogo-Fawcett is the first to admit, though the new BES scheme is probably less risky for investors than the traditional "Angel" system.

"We tried to get away from the angel concept," he says. "Investment in this company is not linked to any one particular production – we expect to transfer about three plays to the West End each year."

Angels put all their eggs in one basket and the profits are split 60-40 betweeen them and the producer. The new company will get 100 per cent of the net profits – after the Lyric has received its usual fee and royalties.

Because it is done through the Business Expansion Scheme, investors can get full tax relief on the money they put in – quite different from the angel system where there are no tax concessions. Shares are £1 each and the minimum holding is £500.

The new play opening at the Lyric next week, *The Man Who Fell in Love With His Wife* starring Tom Bell, is expected to be one of the first productions going to the West End under the new scheme. The Lyric can point to a string of past successes.

Eleven Lyric productions have gone to the West End in the last four years – about a third have made a profit, the rest have broken even. But Mr Cogo-Fawcett says the Lyric does not plan its programmes with the West End uppermost in mind. "We don't intend to depart from our community function here. It's just that so many of our productions seem to have a life of their own, attracting much more general interest."

Recent transfers have included plays as diverse as *Charley's Aunt* and *Miss Julie*. "We were lucky with our production of *Kean* which starred Ben Kingsley, and it's got a lot of attention because of *Gandhi* and the Oscar."

Critical success and profits, however, are not the same thing. What about the well-known risks involved in theatre production? The new company does not intend to sink more than half its capital in any single production. In fact it will probably share the burdens of financing most transfers with another commercial producer, which again reduces the risk.

For instance, the cost of transferring a play could be £60,000, of which the new company would put up half. Running costs of £1,600 a week would again be split with the co-producer.

If the play managed 60 per cent capacity audience for 26 weeks, there could be a very healthy profit of nearly £100,000, half of which would go to the new company, which would be a good return on its original £30,000 outlay.

If the play flopped however, it would lose that £30,000 plus the running costs for however long it was on. "In reality, we could never lose a very large amount," says Mr Cogo-Fawcett. "If you are losing money, you just close down."

Investment in Lyric Hammersmith Productions is subject to the usual rules of the Busines Expansion Scheme. You can obtain full tax relief on up to £40,000 a year invested. The shares must be held for five years. Details are available from the Company Secretary, Lyric Hammersmith Productions, Lyric Theatre, King Street, Hammersmith, London, W6 OQL.

Margaret Drummond

FAMILY MONEY

Building societies

Extra interest accounts may lose attraction

While the question of what happens to building society interest rates has been postponed until the Budget, on March 13, it is a good time to look at the range of extra interest accounts.

Most building societies do not undertake to peg the extra interest accounts to the basic share account rate – but on the whole they do. And when interest rates come down, as they probably will, the extra interest accounts may be made relatively less attractive. Building Socicites now have less than half their investors' money in ordinary share accounts which means that their margins are being eroded.

The latest to enter the leap-frog race to keep ahead of the competition is the Yorkshire Building Society which has polished up its Diamond Key account. The rate of interest has been raised from 8.5 per cent to 8.75 per cent and the period of notice has been reduced from 60 to 28 days.

When the Diamond Key account was launched last May it was clearly a best buy and the Yorkshire now has 40,000 Diamond Key holders. It attracted such a flood of funds that the Yorkshire was able to increase its mortgage lending last year by 32 per cent to £262m.

"We can afford to make these improvements because of our exceptionally high reserves," said Mr Derek Roberts, Yorkshire's assistant general manager.

The new Diamond Key account allows instant withdrawal of money with a penalty of 60 days' interest. The minimum needed to open one of these accounts is £500 and interest can be taken monthly. It will then be transferred into your bank account or share account. It would be too expensive for the building society to add it to the Diamond Account monthly. But if interest is taken only annually it is then added to the account.

There are several other building society accounts now offering 8.75 per cent interest. The Northern Rock Premium Moneyspinner account has no set notice period but each withdrawal is subject to a penalty of 28 days' notice. The minimum investment in this account is £1,000.

The Abbey National Higher Interest Account, the Paddington Building Society and Property Owners Building Society all require a minimum deposit of £500 for their accounts paying 8.75 per cent.

Vivien Goldsmith

BEST BUYS ON BUILDING SOCIETY 7 DAY ACCOUNTS

	Interest Rate	Minimum Inv'tment
Abbey National	8.25	£100
Alliance	8.25	£250
Bolton	8.25	£500
Britannia	8.25	£1,000
Chatham Reliance	8.25	£500
*Cheltenham & Gloucester	8.25	£5,000
Cheshire	8.25	£500
East Surrey	8.30	-
Halifax	8.25	£500
Heart of England	8.25	£100
Midshires	8.25	£500
Northern Rock	8.25	£1,000
Principality	8.25	-
Town & Country	8.50	£500
Universal	8.25	£500
Western Counties	8.25	£500
Woolwich Equitable	8.25	£500

All require seven days' notice, apart from Heart of England, which requires five days
*No notice required

BEST BUYS ON BUILDING SOCIETY 28 DAY ACCOUNTS

	Interest Rate	Minimum Inv'tment
Alliance	8.50	£500
Barnsley	8.50	£500
Bolton	8.75	£1,000
Chesbunt	8.50	£500
Halifax	8.50	£500
London Permanent	8.50	£100
Market Harborough	8.40	-
Marsden	8.60	£1,000
Middleton	8.60	-
National & Provincial	8.50	£500
National Counties	9.10	£1,000
North of England	8.50	-
Northern Rock	8.75	£1,000
Norwich	8.50	£1,000
Paddington	8.75	£500
Portsmouth	8.50	£1,000
Property Owners	8.75	£500
St Pancras	8.60	£1,000
Woolwich Equitable	8.50	£500
Yorkshire	8.75	£500

All require 28 days' notice

Investment

All taped but is the advice good?

Has *Tomorrows World* hit the investment business? Investors and advisers are on the receiving end of a new kind of marketing – phone-in services, promotional tapes and video packs. The unit trust group Henderson this week launched what it rather grandly bills as a new investment advice service (01-673 8756). Advice consists of a boost for the group's view of Singapore and Malaysia Fund.

Henderson's marketing director Mr Peter Pearson-Lund says: "We have no direct sales force so a phone-in service is a good way of communicating with investors. Over 500 people phoned in last weekend." But are they given real advice or just an advertisement?.

Henderson promised that future editions of their Henderson's Hotline will give views on different markets and sectors: recommeding when to get out as well as when to get in.

Britannia Unit Trust Group has been running its Viewpoint Service for some time (01-673 0048). That too says it is an investment advisory service. But callers last week were advised simply to climb aboard the latest Britannia product.

Mr Richard Bagge, a Britannia director, says: "We have had 30,000 calls on Viewpoint. We don't always talk about a specific fund. Past recordings have given our general market views. We recently said that technology funds were looking jaded."

Viewpoint's success has inspired a new marketing ploy – a 20 minute video. For £2 investors can see real life fund managers discussing their wares. The best investment may be the tape itself which you can wipe clean.

The Britannia video was originally destined for intermediaries such as insurance brokers through whom so much unit trust business is conducted. Henderson already sends them regular tape recordings lasting over an hour.

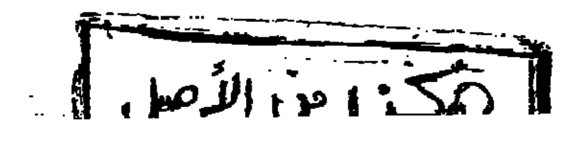
Mr Tony Doggart, marketing director of Save & Prosper, pinpoints what may be the main flaw in the strategy. "I think it's very difficult to make this sort of thing required viewing or listening. And you can't even bribe them with lunch."

Save & Prosper, it must be said, has made the most substantial investment in videos to date. It recently lauched the first three in what it hopes will be a series of hour long films, each dealing with a specific personal finance topic. I looked at *Ten Ways To Save Tax*. That is so far proving the most popular and it was extremely well done. The drawback however is the price the videos are £17.95 each.

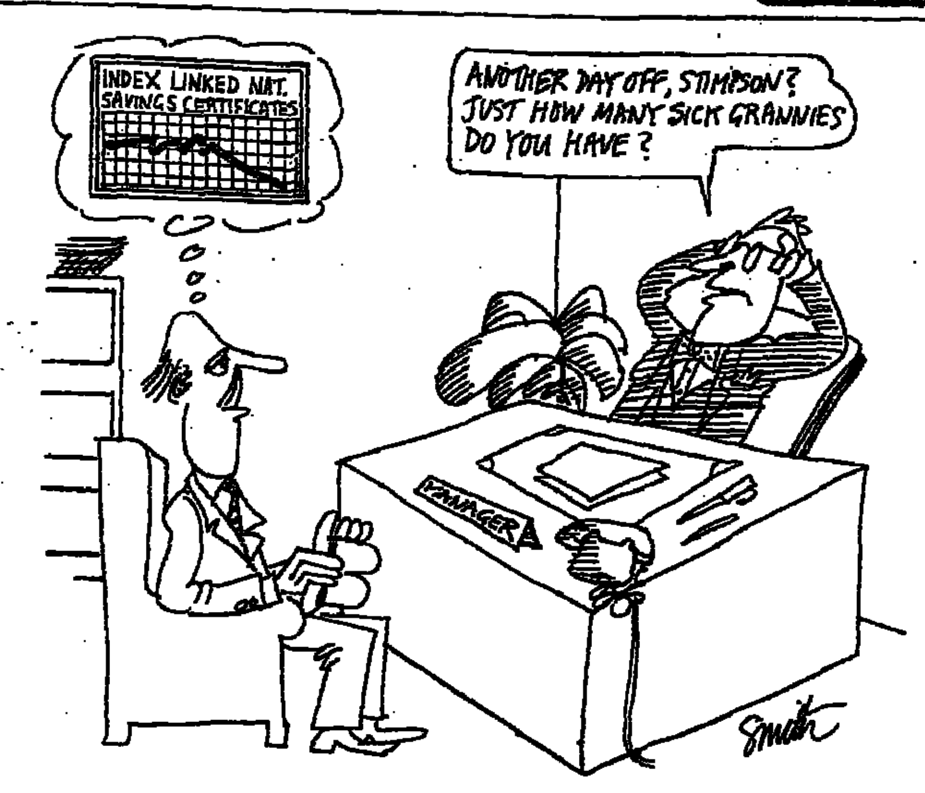
Mr Doggart says: "We believe there is a do it yourself market and that people will be prepared to pay for proper impartial advice. We took a deliberate decision not to mention our products in the video.

Most bizarre of the new wave services must be Legal & General's Pensions Newline (07373-60615). Callers are greeted with music no less. But it has been amazingly successful says Mr Ron Spill of Legal & General. "Basically the service is designed to help professionals keep tabs on what is going on. We aim to give the views straight – but if Legal & General has an opinion we will give that too."

Margaret Drummond



FAMILY MONEY



Savings

How granny is losing her obvious charms

Last month alone about £15m worth of granny bonds (index-linked National Savings Certificates) were cashed in as investors saw inflation falling and the value of their investment going down. Brian Peters reports.

Holders of index-linked National Savings Certificates, better known as granny bonds, will find the repayment values of their holdings are slightly lower next month than this month. This is because the Retail Prices Index has eased from 342.8 to 342.6, in the latest figures.

There is no cause for panic. For a £100 certificate, the difference in value will be less than the price of a Mars Bar. But it is timely to look again at granny bonds and their place on the investment scene.

During the period of double-figure inflation in the late 1970s and early 1980s, granny bonds were a best buy. Now the arguments for holding them are much less clear cut.

Granny bonds do not pay interest as such. The main key to their value in the movement of the Retail Prices Index. If the index goes up by 15 per cent in a year, the money value of grany bonds will also rise by 15 per cent, and appears to be holding steady. With building societies offering 8.25 per cent on seven-day accounts, granny bonds are begining to look unattractive.

In a sense, the Government has become the victim of its own success. The appeal of granny bonds has been weakened, because it has been able to bring inflation down and is constantly proclaiming its resolve to reduce it further.

The latest figures from National Savings show that while most forms of National Savings are doing well, more than £50m went out of granny bonds last month alone.

Without the 2.4 per cent supplements that have been added to the value of granny bonds, the outflow would doubtless have been greater.

For high-rate taxpayers, granny bonds are still a reasonable proposition. The return is exempt from all rates of income tax and capital gains tax. For a 50 per cent taxpayer, the prospective return of about 7.5 per cent, inflation of 5.1 per cent, plus the 2.4 per cent supplement, grosses up to 15 per cent.

For anyone paying tax at the top rate of 75 per cent, including investment income surcharge, the grossed-up yield would be 30 per cent. The only competitor for these savers is 26th Issue National Savings Certificates which pay 8.26 per cent tax free over five years.

Non-taxpayers can do better by switching into another kind of National Savings. The Income Bond, Deposit Bond and Investment Account are all paying 11 per cent or more, without deduction of tax at source. This is in contrast to the building societies, which pay tax which the investor cannot reclaim.

Before granny bonds become attractive to non-taxpayers, either inflation would have to rise sharply again, or interest rates on other forms of savings would have to drop well below present levels.

Basic-rate taxpayers face a more difficult choice. Their return, grossed up, is about 10.7 per cent – hardly a strong inducement by today's standards. And the building societies are offering a higher return, not to mention savings certificates.

Investors who do begin to think in terms of encashing their granny bonds should keep secondary factors in mind. A bonus of 4 per cent of purchase price is added after five years, so anyone whose granny bonds are coming up to their fifth anniversary should wait for that date to arrive. The 2.4 per cent supplement for 1983-84 is only payable if the certificates are held until November 1.

As the autumn approaches, the Government will have to decide its policy on further supplements. This decision will be influenced by the trend of inflation and on the returns obtainable on other forms of savings.

Assuming that the Government wants to keep money in granny bonds and thus avoid some possibly embarrassing refunding, it will have to pitch any future supplements at a level that will give granny bond holders a market rate of return.

However, with all the estimates for inflation settling in the 5 to 6 per cent range, other investments will show a better return for non-taxpayers and basic rate taxpayers – in the shorter term at least.

AFTER–TAX RETURNS FROM FIXED–INTEREST INVESTMENTS

	Non-taxpayer %	30% %	40% %	50% %	60% %	75% %
Bank 7 Day Deposit	5.5	3.8	3.3	2.75	2.2	1.37
Building Society Ordinary Account	7.25	7.25	6.2	5.17	4.1	2.58
Building Society Extra Interest Account	8.25	8.25	7.0	5.9	4.7	2.9
NSB Investment Account	11.0	7.7	6.6	5.5	4.4	2.75
Money Fund*	8.75	6.1	5.25	4.37	3.5	2.9
26th Issue National Savings Certificates	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26
Granny Bonds"	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4

* Average rate
" Estimated return January '84 to January '85, including 2.4% bonus

Compensation

Court victory on investment advice will open floodgates

A significant victory for small investors was gained in the courts last week when Mr David Craven of Grimsby won his case for compensation for bad investment advice against Lawson Insurance Consultants of Grimsby.

On the recommendation of Lawson Insurance Consultants, Mr Craven invested £1,500 in Signal Life Gilt Bonds. Gibraltar-based Signal Life failed in August 1982 owing an estimated £6m to investors. Because it was an offshore insurance company investors were not entitled to any compensation under the Policyholders Protection Act. The more fortunate majority who had invested in Signal Life Gold Bonds were very promptly compensated by trustees to the fund, Hong Kong Shanghai Bank, which paid our more than £4.5m to reimburse these gold bondholders.

But investors like Mr Craven who had invested in the gilt bond got nothing because this fund had no trustee. Many of the intermediaries who sold the bonds were both Registered Brokers and members of the British Insurance Brokers Association, but in most cases investors have not been compensated by their broker.

Mr John Potter, who has been the prime mover in organizing the investors who lost out, said: "This is an important victory for members of the Signal Life Investors Action Group.

"The outcome of the case was decided on a number of relevant issues, many of which seem common to all cases. It was upheld that an intermediary with expertise in the field of offshore bonds would have been unlikely to have recommended the Signal Life Gilt Bond because the basic arithmetic did not make sense in relation to the commissions paid to the intermediaries and the accepted definition of gilts."

"Because of the risks involved, brokers and intermediaries should have taken steps to clarify the trustee issue, by contacting the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank which signal claimed was the trustee. Some intermediaries appear to have done this and did not market the bonds."

However, it looks as though it will be some time before Mr Craven gets his £1,500 (plus interest and costs) reimbursed.

"Mr Craven's success will simply open the floodgates", said a worried Mr Lawson, who has a further £50,000 worth of similar claims outstanding.

Although Lawson Insurance Consultants were not registered brokers, they did have professional indemnity insurance arranged through the Lloyd's brokers Nelson Hurst and Marsh.

But making a claim on the PI policy will not be straightforward. "We have been fighting our professional indemnity insurers for more than 18 months" said Mr David Lawson, of Lawson Insurance Consultants.

Mr Ron Whitehead of Nelson Hurst and Marsh, who handles Mr Lawson's PI insurance, was very reluctant to discuss the matter but simply said that a common exclusion in all PI policies is "insolvency of the insurer" – which clearly could apply to Signal Life – though he confirmed that professional negligence (which is the grounds on which Mr Lawson is making his claim) would normally be covered.

Several hundred other brokers and intermediaries will be anxiously watching what happens next. If Mr Lawson's PI insurance does not pay out he may be forced to go into liquidation – a prospect which many other brokers also face.

In the case of registered insurance brokers, the Insurance Brokers Registration Council grants scheme would come into operation at this point and might reimburse investors. But that is a long way down the line for most small savers and is no help to Mr Craven who bought his bond through an intermediary who was not a registered broker.

This court victory for Signal Life Investors Action Group is only the first – they intend now to bring many more similar actions.

But it highlights some very important points for small investors. First, the apparent inadequacy of intermediaries' professional indemnity insurance as a means of compensating investors.

This is totally unsatisfactory.

But more important, it makes Professor Laurence Gower's recommendation that all investment advisers should have insurance cover look decidedly inadequate. Clearly what is needed is a bonding scheme similar to that run by the Association of British Travel Agents which requires agents to put up a cash bond before they are allowed to go into business. Only such a bonding scheme, with its attendant compensation fund, offers any real protection to investors.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Assoc Energy 5p Ord (158a)	73−2
Brint Inv £1 Ord (a)	145−3
CML Microsystems (130*a)	213+8
Cable & Wireless 50p Ord (275*) Fully Paid	333
Dataserv Inc Com Stk $0.05	76
Gibbs Mew 25p Ord (240a)	190
Grosvenor Squar 10p Ord (91a)	100
Hemara 10p Ord (95)	95
Kent J. 5p Ord (35a)	38½
Moray Firth Maltings 50p Ord (195a)	224
Morgan Communications 5p Ord (60a)	75−2
Radio Clyde 25p Ord NV (60a)	70
Sangers Photographics 10p Ord (23a)	25½−½
Synterials 10p Ord (100a)	84
Tyne Tees 100p "A" NV (135a)	160
Umbond 25p Ord (105a)	109
Valin Pollen Int 5p Ord (110a)	183+2
Welpac 10p Ord (10a)	16½
XYLLYX 10p Ord (50a)	49−2

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. * by tender.

New owner will turn Butlin's camp into a US-style theme park

By Jonathan Clare

The Butlin's holiday camp at Clacton, Essex has been sold by the Rank Organisation to a private company which will develop it into theme park based on similar schemes in the US.

The 45-acre site, one of Britain's best known holiday centres, has been bought by Amusement Enterprises for "some millions". Amusement Enterprises once held concessions at Alton Towers, the amusement park on the Staffordshire borders, and was half a dozen potential bidders for the Clacton site.

Rank put the camp at Clacton and Filey, North Yorks, on the market last October. A buyer for Filey has still to be found.

Amusement Enterprises is run by Mr Brian Collins, but Mr David Pearce, who used to manage the Clacton camp, will become chief executive.

The deal has been financed by Amusement Enterprises' own resources with backing from the four high street banks. An analyst said yesterday: "It probably did not cost them a vast amount of money. Rank was probably only too delighted to find a buyer.

"It has a lot of run-down chalet accommodation and was probably not making a profit".

Amusement Enterprises intends to develop the site, which will be called Atlas Park, over five years though it will open this Easter for a preview with an official opening in May.

Clacton was mothballed as a going concern in October.

Results from Butlin's on Thursday showed it made a profit of £8.4m against £5.7m. The figures include an extraordinary charge of £11.8m, which includes the closure costs of the Clacton and Filey camps.

Yesterday, Mr Collins was in Grmany buying equipment for the park

Brighton pier changes hands

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Brighton's Palace Pier, now nearly 90 years old, has been bought by the Noble Organization of South Shields, Tyne and Wear, a private company which operates amusement arcades, bingo halls and cinemas, mostly in the North of England.

Lord Delfont made a bid for the pier, owned by Brighton Marine Palace and Pier Company, through his First Leisure Corporation early this year.

Then talks started with Noble, which yesterday would say only that a "substantial" price was being paid.

Considerable restoration will be needed on the pier which, unlike the derelict West Pier at Brighton, is still operating as a leisure attraction, although its 1,700-seat theatre has been closed since 1975.

Lord Delfont had anticipated spending several million pounds on restoration. Noble said it had no detailed plans except that the pier would be modernized without affecting is attractive exterior.

Noble has been expanding in the South of England over the past five years, with a large leisure development at Margate and a chain of amusement centres in London, and now employs 1,200.

Racal ship wins first contract

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Racal Electronic Group's latest seismic survey ship, Lady Harrison, has won her first contract, just a month after being delivered.

A Norwegian oil company will use the ship to complete about 3,500 kilometres of high-resolution, geophysical survey of the Norwegian sector of the northern North Sea oilfields.

The 55-metre long vessel was delivered to Racal in January from her Bergen builders and her first trial voyage from Norway to Aberdeen took place in a Force Ten gale. Her scientific equipment had already been tested in the deep waters of the Bergen Fjord.

Mr Harry Vagseth of Racal Survey said: "This major contract fully justifies Racal's decision to invest in a highly specialised vessel."

BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int only Yield	Gross Red Yield
SHORTS								
104¾	101	Exch	14%	1984	101	−1/16	13.862	9.301
98¾	92¾	Exch	3%	1984	98	−⅛	3.062	9.636
102½	100⅛	Treas	12%	1984	101 7/16	−1/16	11.830	9.377
107¾	104⅞	Treas	15%	1985	104 13/16	−⅛	14.293	9.590
107	101	Exch Cv	12%	1985	102⅜	−⅛	11.721	9.612
94 5/16	88¾	Treas	3%	1985	94	−5/16	3.190	8.229
103 9/16	98½	Treas	11¼%	1985	102⅛	−¼	11.261	9.806
102	95½	Treas C	8¾%	1985	99¼	−⅛	8.818	9.265
103¾	100⅛	Exch	12½%	1985	103¼	−¼	11.864	10.117

[illegible]

MEDIUMS

[illegible]

LONGS

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

[illegible]

C — E

[illegible]

F — H

[illegible]

I — N

[illegible]

O — S

[illegible]

T — Z

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
21½	13⅛	TDK	19½	+3/16	11.4	0.6	27.4
250	132	TI Group	248	+2	10.7	4.3	..
203	21	TACE	186	−1	4.3	2.3	13.0
90	34	TSL Therm Synd	84	−1	..	..	9.9
29	14½	TSW	29	+½	1.7	5.9	11.6
25 11/16	20⅝	Takeda BDR	£20 7/16	−1/16	..	..	22.3
7⅝	4	Talbex Grp	5½	−⅛	..	..	..
464	390	Tarmac PLC	464	+2	16.3	3.5	16.3
435	239½	Tate & Lyle	381	+1	22.9	6.0	8.2

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
328	137	New Tokyo	286	..	..	..	
274	182	North Atlantic	246	..	4.3	1.7	
142	107	Nth Sea Assets	112	−2	4.3	3.8	
238	178	Northern Amer	222	..	7.7	3.5	
163	76	Oil & Associated	145	−3	6.3	4.3	
38	31	Personal Assets	32	..	..	..	
261	186	Raeburn	247	..	12.0	4.9	
790	553	Robeco f15	745	+4	32.8	4.4	
756	523	Rolinco Subs f15	705	+5	16.8	2.4	
47½	41½	Rorento 'NV'	£46⅝	+⅛	..	..	
206	157	Scot Amer	184	..	6.9	3.8	
138	98	Scot Eastern	125	..	4.8	3.8	
228	159	Scot Invest	214	..	6.7	3.1	
310	202	Scot Mortgage	294	−2	8.9	3.0	
183	121	Scot National	172	−2	5.6	3.3	
114	76¾	Scot Northern	108	+1	4.4	4.1	
448	328	Sec Alliance	429	+2	16.1b	3.8	
40	30	Stewart Ent	35	..	0.6b	1.6	
113½	81	Stockholders	100	..	2.8	2.8	
111	58	TR Australia	103	..	2.6	2.5	
66	48½	TR C of Ldn Dfd	63	+1	3.9b	6.1	
132	84	TR Ind & Gen	124	..	4.5	3.6	
260	166	TR Natural Res	252	+2	10.0	4.0	
176	116	TR Nth America	135	−2	4.6	3.4	
247	127	TR Pacific Basin	232	−1	2.9	1.2	
125	86½	TR Property	113	..	4.0b	3.5	
163	116	TR Technology	152	..	4.7	3.1	
108	78½	TR Trustees	103	−1	4.7b	4.6	
245	170	Throg Sec 'Cap'	245	..	8.6b	3.5	
185	137	Throgmtn Trust	169	−2	9.3	5.5	
149	111	Trans Oceanic	133	−1	4.1	3.1	
182	117	Tribune Inv	175	..	5.4	3.1	
75½	66½	Triplevest 'Inc'	74½	..	10.5b	14.1	
515	390	Do Cap	494				
182	129	Utd States Deb	171	−1	9.3b	5.4	
94	60	Viking Res	89	−1	1.3	1.4	
62	40	Westpool Inv	62	..	1.8	2.9	
130	80	Witan Inv	122	..	3.4b	2.8	

SHIPPING

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
291	127	Ass Brit Ports	288	..	10.0b	3.5	13.8
11	5 29/32	Brit & Com	£10	..	19.7	2.0	24.9
10⅛	4⅞	Caledonia Inv	£10	..	18.8	1.9	88.1
126	86	Fisher J	126	+10	4.0	3.2	8.3
61	35	Jacobs J. I.	54	..	3.7	6.9	28.1
128	70	Ocean Trans	117	..	9.5	8.1	82.4
279	108	P & O 'Dfd'	277	−1	14.3	5.2	18.7

MINES

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

PLANTATIONS

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

UNLISTED SECURITIES

[illegible]

Sterling: Spot and Forward

[illegible]

Money Market Rates

[illegible]

Other Markets

[illegible]

Dollar Spot Rates

[illegible]

Euro-$ Deposits

[illegible]

Gold

[illegible]

FAMILY MONEY

Employees' benefits

Birthday top-up for sick pay scheme

Introduction of the "new" sick pay scheme, a year ago in April, meant that being off work through sickness would never be the same for most people. No longer would they have to go to the Department of Health and Social Security when they felt ill – the money would come from their employers instead.

Employers now pay out at one of three levels of benefit when employees are off sick. The amount depends on earnings and goes up for the first time from April 6. The new rates from then will be £28.55 where pay is between £34 and £50.49 a week; £35.45 for people paid between £50.50 and £68 a week; and £42.45 for those earning more than £68. This means an extra £1.35, £1.70, or £2 a week, depending on the amount of your wages. On the other hand, people who get less than £34 a week do not qualify for any sick pay at all At the moment, this is £32.50. Employers can pay more if they wish, but they cannot pay less then the minimum.

Sick pay lasts for up to eight weeks in any tax year (April to April), or for a total of eight weeks if the illness crosses two tax years. You cannot get sickness benefit at the same time – only when the eight weeks are up. For most people, this means that as sickness will usually last for much less than eight weeks, they probably never have to go near the DHSS.

These arrangements do not apply to self-employed people, the unemployed or those who have retired. People on short-term contracts of less than three months are not covered. You may not be either if you have been getting some state social security benefits shortly before going sick.

It means, too, that the days of getting full pay from an employer and then claiming state sickness benefit on top are gone . . . for the first eight weeks at least. Under the old arrangements this could have been worth an extra £42 a week to a married man.

Another spin-off from the changeover has been that industrial injury benefit, which used to be paid to people hurt at work, has ended. Instead, anyone injured at work simply gets sick pay instead, followed in the normal way by state sickness benefit after the eight-week sick period is up.

One group of people who have got something out of the change is working married women who still pay the lower national insurance stamp. Before sick pay came into being, they could get no state help if they fell ill. Now, they get sick pay for the first eight weeks of sickness, just like everyone else. However, they cannot then get ordinary sickness benefit if they are still ill when sick pay runs out.

The one exception to this is for work injuries. Here a married woman who is still sick after the eight weeks may be able to get sickness benefit. If she remains ill she can then get the higher invalidity benefit after a total of six months.

Ian McDonald



Sick pay now lasts up to eight weeks – in or out of hospital.

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account – no interest paid. Deposit accounts – Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 5½ per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. National Girobank 6 per cent. Lloyds extra interest 9 per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9⅛ per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 – 1 month 8.0, 3 months 8.25, 6 months 8.5 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS

Fund	Flat	APR	Telephone
Aitken Hume monthly inc	8.75	9.11	01 638 6070
B of Scotland	8.80	9.16	01 628 8060
Britannia call	8.875	9.245	01 588 2777
Mallinhall call	8.85	9.19	01 499 6634
Oppenheimer Simco High interest deposit account	8.75	8.94	01 236 1425
S & P call	8.6234		9.0 0708 66966
Schroder Wagg	8.70	9.06	01 382 6226
" over £10,000	8.95	9.33	01 382 6226
Tullet & Riley	8.88	9.12	01 236 0952
T & R 7 day	8.92	9.16	01 236 0952
Tyndall 7 day	9.0	9.30	0272 732241
Tyndall call	8.83		0272 732241
UDT 7 day	8¾	9.04	01 623 3020
Western Trust 1 month	8.75	9.11	0752 261162

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts – interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1984, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Account – 11% interest paid without deduction of tax, 1 month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 26th Issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8.26 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Min investment £2,000 – max. £200,000. Interest – 11½ per cent variable at six weeks notice – paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice – check penalties.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1984 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1983 and October 1984 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity.

National Savings Deposit Bond
Minimum investment £500 max £50,000, 11½ per cent variable at six weeks notice. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.
2 years English Insurance 8.4 per cent. 3 years Capital Life 8.5 per cent. 4 years British National 9 per cent. 5 years Eurolife 9.5 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 9⅞ per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Neath 10 per cent. 2 years Kent CC 10¼ per cent. 3 years Kirklees 10¾ per cent. 4-5 years Tameside 10½ per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Loans Bureau (01-828 7855 after 3pm) see also on Prestel no 24808.

Building societies
Ordinary share accounts – 7.25 per cent. Term shares – between 0.5 per cent and 2 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes – 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Extra interest accounts, 1 to 1.25 per cent above ordinary account. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Investors in industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 10½ per cent; 4-5 years, 10¾ per cent; 6-10 years, 11 per cent; Further information from 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Finance house deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 9¼ per cent; 1 year, 9½ per cent; 2 years, 10 per cent.

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Intl. Reserves 0481 26741. seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

Sterling	8.17 per cent
US dollar	8.74 per cent
Yen	5.09 per cent
D Mark	4.56 per cent
French Franc	11.36 per cent
Swiss Franc	1.65 per cent

January RPI: 342.6 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

Pensions

Charity urges delay

No decision on portable pensions should be taken until the total retirement package of occupational and state pensions has been reviewed, Age Concern, says in a critical response to the inquiry into portable pensions initiated by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

The charity, which is concerned with the welfare of the elderly, suggests steps for reform of occupational pensions which it claims would solve the early leaver problem without the dangers of portable pensions.

The more serious problem, says Age Concern, is that many people are not covered by company schemes and face retirement on inadequate state benefits. The charity is also concerned that alternative methods of funding pensions will not be examined.

Age Concern criticizes the proposals because the "insurance" principle on which pension funds are based could be endangered by allowing some people to organize their own benefits, and because portable pensions do not offer the security of final salary schemes.

Although portable pensions might encourage job mobility, so could changing the rights of early leavers, Age Concern says. "Most people are no more likely to take an interest in their pension than the average life assurance purchaser."

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5½%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

RUGBY UNION: ONE CHANGE IN ENGLAND SIDE TO PLAY FRANCE AT PARC DES PRINCES

Winterbottom returns in search for balance

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The restoration of Peter Winterbottom to the open-side flank is the only change England make in the side which will play France at Parc des Princes next Saturday. A hip injury prevented Winterbottom from winning his twelfth successive cap against Ireland last weekend. Cooke, of Harlequins, played instead, but he now reverts to the replacements.

This means, therefore, that there is no place in the party for Simpson (Bath) though he is one of seven additional forwards who will train with England at Stourbridge on Monday. It remains an arguable point whether the balance in England's back row is yet the correct one. Winterbottom's pace to the ball is not yet matched by his ability to make sure it comes back on his side at the subsequent loose scrum.

Against the French, however, that might not be so vital though there is bound to be the intriguing sight of two blond heads, those of Winterbottom and Rives, tussling for the loose ball. It is an equally intriguing thought that Simpson, having disappeared from England's sky like a comet, has done sufficiently well to attract the attention of the Welsh, who have invited him, Youngs and Colclough to be England's representatives in the Welsh Rugby Union President's XV which will play Wales in April at the official celebration of the completion of the National Stadium.

Both Winterbottom and White have to prove their fitness today. Winterbottom plays in Headingley's back row against Hartlepool Rovers and White, who damaged lateral ligaments in his knee against the Irish, props for Gosforth against Metropolitan Police – a rearranged fixture since Gosforth's scheduled opponents, Moseley, are involved in the cup.

England were unable to consider Pearce, the Northampton prop, who is still plagued by and ankle injury. He has taken further specialist advice this week and is unable to play for his club in their cup game with London Scottish. Even had Pearce been fit he would have had trouble in removing Blakeway from the England side which scrummaged well against the Irish, while Blakeway also proved his versatility by moving to loose head after White went off.

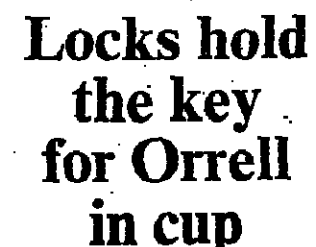
It seems unlikely that England would have contemplated playing Blakeway on the loose head as an original choice had White not been available. The present selectors eschew the thought of picking specialists out of position, despite having played Davies at centre this season.

It may be timely, while talking of selectors, to mention the light-hearted correspondence received on the subject of having a "Welshman", Derek Morgan, as chairman of the England selectors. Morgan's background as an England player is, of course, well known but some readers may have viewed with concern a caption in *The Times* yesterday alluding to Ron Jacobs as president of the Welsh Rugby Union. There has been no underhand transfer of affections and Mr Jacobs remains president of the Rugby Football Union.

The forwards who will join the England party at Stourbridge, apart from Rendall and Simpson, are Widdecombe (Newport), Cannon (Northampton), Rees (Nottingham), Fidler (Gloucester) and Teague (Gloucester). The game in Paris will be refereed by Alan Hosie who will have his two Scottish colleagues, Brian Anderson and Jim Fleming, as touch judges.

The team

ENGLAND: W H Hare (Leicester); J Carleton (Orrell), C R Woodward (Leicester), B Barley (Wakefield), R Underwood, L Cusworth, N G Youngs (all Leicester); C White (Gosforth), P J Wheeler (Leicester, capt), P J Blakeway (Gloucester), J P Hall (Bath), M J Colclough (Wasps), S J Bainbridge (Gosforth), P J Winterbottom (Headingley), J P Scott (Cardiff). Replacements: N C Stringer (Wasps), S Barnes (Bristol), R Hill (Bath), Steve Redfern (Leicester), S G F Mills (Gloucester), D H Cooke (Harlequins).



Winterbottom: tests hip today

Locks hold the key for Orrell in cup

By David Hands

Orrell look as good a bet as any to reach the final of a John Player Cup competition as open as any has been for years. The cup's fourth round is staged today, with Wasps, Bath, Bristol and Orrel jostling to avoid the dubious privilege of favourites, which leaves such clubs as Harlequins and Moseley in the happy position of dark horses. By this evening either Orrell or Wasps will have left the scene since they meet at Edgehall Road, Orrell having suffered only one defeat this season and Wasps two.

Wasps scraped into the fourth round by virtue of scoring the only try drawn tie at Gosforth earlier this month. They are without three of their leading players, the midfield trio of Davies, Cardus and Williams, all of whom are injured.

Yet Wasps are used to making do without their leading players and it is their forwards who have developed into such a competitive unit this season. Even so, they may not have run up against a giant-sized pair as the Orrell locks, Cusani and Kimmins, standing at 6ft 5in and 6ft 8in respectively.

Orrell have already scored 950 points this season, though it is a sign of the times that the Lancashire club have chosen Burnage on the wing instead of Tanner, their leading try-scorer with 29. Burnage has accumulated 238 points mostly through his accurate kicking and the decision is totally realistic – but still slightly sad.

Bristol, the cup holders, play London Welsh without two of their most experienced forwards, Hesford, the England No 8, and Doubleday, the prop. They will have the services of Barnes, deputy stand-off for England and a key figure in their cup success last season, both for his place kicking and his general play.

With Horton back to his best form and Hakin, the Irish lock, fit it will be surprising if Bath do not carry too many guns for Blackheath, even away from home. Blackheath are treating the game as their most important since the last war, win or lose, and would love to think it would lead to regular fixtures with Bath, whom they have not played since the 1930s. They have three key players back in Wishart (lock), Sellers (prop) and Williams, their scrum half.

One of the more unconsidered sides still in the competition are Nottingham who play Moseley at The Reddings, Moeley, though will not take them lightly. They know how consistent Nottingham have been this season and will be thankful both that they have a settled side themselves and that Nottingham are missing two of their leading forwards, Cook, the captain and flanker, and Nixon. Steven Holdstock will lead Nottingham from the wing.

Players' eligibility for cup may be reviewed

By Gerald Davies

There is every likelihood that the rule on the eligibility of players for the Welsh Cup, which reaches its quarter-final stage today, may have to be reconsidered by the Welsh Rugby Union. The point has arisen over Pontypool's attempts to find a replacement scrum half for this tie in the competition sponsored by Schweppes. They face Llanelli at Stradey Park without their prolific points scored, David Bishop at scrum half. He is under suspension for six weeks after being sent off two weeks ago.

They approached Dave Leveridge, the New Zealand scrum half, who is in this country, to see whether he could play for them. When he was unable to do so, Pontypool then asked Peter Kingston, the former Gloucester player who played five times for England. The connexion is that both he, and Eddie Butler, captain of Pontypool, are teachers in Cheltenham. Despite having another scrum half in the squad, Pontypool have opted to import Kingston. The repercussions and the controversy might not have been so great had they asked lesser-known players. The ethics of their actions will be raised at the next meeting of the cup committee.

Ray Gravelle, who broke his collar bone in the last round against South Wales Police, will be missed by Llanelli. Although Pontypool have played Llanelli three times in the cup in previous years – and lost all – this is their first visit to Stradey Park since 1971, when fixtures were discontinued. The only player to have played at Stradey for Pontypool is Graham Price, who today will create a club record of 425 appearances.

Another scrum half in the news and in whom there is interest beyond that of parochial club matters, is Terry Holmes. His appearance for Cardiff against Newbridge at the Memorial Ground will be his first since he damaged his knee in New Zealand last June. He has played three times already for the Cardiff second team and although he is reluctant, understandably, to commit himself after such a long absence, the reports on his fitness have been encouraging. Newbridge have a good record in the cup. They narrowly beat Pontypool 3-0 two seasons ago and they have to go back to 1977 for their last defeat at home in a cup

Many consider Neath to be the dark horses. They are at home to Newport, who, although they have one of the strongest packs in Wales, are let down by their backs.

England allow Romania two warm-up games

By Chris Thau

England have acceded to Romania's request for two warm-up games before their match at Twickenham next January, Bob Weighill, the secretary of the Rugby Football Union, has announced. But he pointed out that in the future the Romanians will be treated in the same way as the French, who arrive two days before the game and depart a day after.

The Romanian season is split into two halves, with a three-month winter break which badly affects their playing standard. For example the Romanian Police team was trounced 54-3 in Ulster earlier this month.

Mr Weighill stressed that the game will be a full international following the example of Scotland and Wales, who had already awarded caps aginst Romania. He said that the RFU have decided to offer the Romanians two divisional sides to play against, but he declined to name them. The Romanians believe the opposition will be the Northern and the South and South-West divisions.

New coach for Australia

The Australians will tour Britain next season with a new coach, after the surprise appointment yesterday of Alan Jones, the Manly coach, ahead of Bob Dwyer, coach to the national side for the last two years, (David Hands writes) Jones has had only one year of senior experience, though last seaon he did help Manly to their first championship victory since 1950.

Dwyer succeeded Bob Templeton, of Queensland, in 1981 and had to cope with the unprecedented situation of taking a team to New Zealand after eight senior players had declared their unavailability. Despite that his side won one of the three-match international series and many New Zealanders were impressed by the attractive Australian style.

However, Australia lost both internationals in their recent tour of France and Dwyer did not help his prospects of re-election by resuming as coach to Randwich at the same time as his national commitment.

Jones, aged 39, managed New South Wales in 1981 and 1982 and received the backing of the strong NSW Union.



From Alderney John Arlott continues to write about the game

The man who became the voice of cricket is 70 today

John Arlott, who is 70 today, will be celebrating in style with family and friends at his retirement home in the Channel Islands. "We will be having the dinner to end all dinners," he said last week. "Five good dishes and seven great wines. I hope I live to see it."

A decade ago there was a distinct possibility he might not have done. Now, he is enjoying rude good health, so much so that rumours have abounded of a return to the microphone this summer. It is no secret that the BBC, through which medium Arlott brought a wider audience to cricket, would welcome him back. Since he made that memorable farewell in 1980, when the cast and crowd of the Centenary Test broke out in spontaneous acclaim, *Test Match Special* has been charged in various quarters with going to the dogs.

Yet, there will be no comeback. "I have a whole summer of farewells," Arlott said. "I wanted to get out while I could still do the job, and besides, when one retires to an island, one stays on it. I am content watching cricket and writing in Alderney. If I didn't write, I'd die."

What were these gifts that Arlott possessed, which made him such an intergral port of cricket? Firstly, his accent. It evoked England and long, rustic days on the village green. In Hampshire today, and even in Hambledon, where the game has its roots, you will hear nothing like it. It would, anyway, grate in a game of helmets and moisture-reading gadgets.

After the last war, Arlott, more than any other commentator, brought a new following to cricket. He became its voice. As Tony Cozier, his former colleague, said, the make-believe commentator at the make-believe Test match enacted by boys all round the world was always Arlott. "Somehow, the Arlott phraseology stuck more easily in our young and imaginative minds than the verses of Homer or the problems of Pythagoras."

Arlott's liking for cricket was matched, perhaps surpassed, by his liking for language. From an early age his mother encouraged him to visit the local library. The 10,000 books he housed at his home in Alresford, now with him in Alderney, included signed first editions of Thomas Hardy and he personally inscribed early works of Dylan Thomas. When a young man, Arlott the poet was thought a bright prospect.

His poem 'Oh on a great batsman' is concluded thus:

Recorded centuries leave no trace
On memory of that timeless grace.

In later years he did not pursue poetry. He probably had too much to do. Yet his diverse interests – he was for 11 years in the Southampton Police Force, a Parliamentary candidate as a Liberal, a collector of antiques, a wine writer and owner of one of the finest private cellars in Britain – were his strength. He never became too embroiled with cricket, not elevating its worth above being the greatest of games.

Football, which Arlott reported for a time, he abandoned because he felt it grew beyond the limits of a sport: "It became seedy." Overall, he bore out the maxim of his friend, Alan Gibson, that most of the best writers on sport have interests in other fields and consequently a sense of proportion.

Arlott was never much of a cricketer. He was one of those, he said, who "basked in the smiles of female friends of men who play long innings". Yet either he was made for cricket or cricket was made for him. He taught himself the arts of commentating, having lived when a policeman in lodgings that owned neither radio nor television. He acquired much of his specialist knowledge through close contact with cricketers, who bestowed on him the Presidency of the Cricketers' Association. It is the greatest compliment he has been paid.

Then there were his celebrated puns. In 1947, when a pupil at the microphone, he was commentating at Lord's. Tufty Mann, a South African spinner, had George Mann, of Middlesex, creasebound and spellbound with his leg-breaks and googlies. "What we have here", Arlott said, "is a clear case of Mann's inhumanity to Mann."

Another of Arlott's qualities was his ability to pace his commentaries and talks. "He had a fine sense of timing", Peter Baxter, his old producer, said. A few years ago Arlott and Trevor Bailey, whose prosaic summaries nicely offset Arlott's eloquence on *Test Match Special*, provided background commentary for a BBC television play. "They wanted us to talk about cricket in general for half an hour", Bailey said. "They were absolutely shattered when John finished dead on time."

Concurrent with his radio and television work, Arlott was, of course, cricket and wine correspondent of *The Guardian*. He is the author of more than 40 books. His staggering capacity for work was heightened at times, perhaps, by personal tragedies. His second wife died when still young and his eldest son was killed in a road accident. Throughout his career, however, he brought only pleasure to his many listeners and readers. "I don't know what my influence has been", he said, "but I have never lost enthusiasm. To come to my job was a pipe-dream."

Ivo Tennant





The sprig who became an oak in cricket commentary

Unit Trust Prices - change on the week

Authorized Unit Trusts

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Current Bid	Current Offer	Yield
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers, 1-3 St Pauls Churchyard EC4P 4DX 01-236 1853			
100.0	−2.5	American Grwth	90.7	97.5e	1.74
[illegible]	+0.7	Cmtdy & Energy	81.4	87.5	[illegible]
60.0	+0.3	UK Growth	56.5	60.3	2.31
97.5	−0.2	General	90.3	97.6e	1.46
125.5	−0.6	Gilt & Fixed Int	118.0	124.9	9.61
134.9	−0.1	Japan	124.6	133.9	0.22
63.7	+0.4	H Inc Equity	59.6	64.1e	6.47
150.2	−0.5	Worldwide	138.9	149.4	[illegible]
60.4	..	Assets & Earn	55.9	60.4	[illegible]
130.0	+0.1	Equitas Prog	128.7	139.1	4.17
		Aitken Hume Funds (Man) Ltd, 1 Worship St, EC2A 2AB 01-638 6011			
129.1	+1.0	Secure Income	121.0	130.1e	6.90
[illegible]	−6.5	American Tech	116.6	125.5	0.10
62.3	+1.0	Japan Tech	[illegible]	63.3	[illegible]
[illegible]	+1.5	Pacific	146.6	158.5	0.70
[illegible]	+3.6	Special Sits	159.0	171.0	[illegible]
33.3	+0.9	Inc & Growth	33.7	[illegible]	4.57
246.0	−5.4	Energy Ind Fnd	[illegible]	240.6	[illegible]
414.4	..	Exempt Fnd (36)	[illegible]	414.4	3.00
276.8	+6.2	Small Co Fnd	263.3	283.0	1.56
		Allied Unit Trusts Ltd, Hambro Hse., Hutton, Essex. 0277 211459/220129			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FOOTBALL: OLSEN ATTRACTS MANCHESTER UNITED MANAGER

Atkinson seeks consolation in Netherlands

By Clive White

Ron Atkinson, the Manchester United manager, will cheer himself with a visit to the Netherlands tomorrow where, he hopes, he will drool over Jesper Olsen, whom has signs from Ajax in the summer. He and Brian Clough, the Nottingham Forest manager, has some bad news this week. Liverpool expect Kenny Dalglish to return to the fold by March 10.

He should be back for the second leg of their European Cup tie with Benfica, the Milk Cup final with Everton and, most importantly, the league championship. Liverpool have lurched along for 12 games since Dalglish fractured his cheekbone in a collison with Manchester United's Moran on January 2, but they have remained afloat. United and Forest, it would appear, have missed the boat.

Forest, of course, have done remarkably well and could be leading the division when Dalglish returns (His first match will probably be for the reserves on Derby day at Goodison Park next Saturday). Today Forest, unbeaten since losing to Liverpool on New Year's Eve, could bridge that three-point gap by beating an Arsenal side who made Liverpool struggle the other week. Terry Venables, the Rangers manager, considers that his yound side are not far behind the best.

Because of Southampton's fine win in mideweek and Tottenham Hotspur's laborious draw there is daylight between sixth and seventh places which may become even broader. If Southampton do as the bookmakers expect as win the Fa Cup, all the UEFA Cup places may already have been allotted.

The Dell is an examination centre for three hopeful graduates today – Welsh and Stein, of Luton Town, and Wright, of Southampton. Bobby Robson, the England manager, will be there to mark their performances in relation to England's game with France in Paris on Wednesday. His attention, though, may be distracted by Moran, scorer of 12 goals in 12 games, and overlooked as far as the senior squad is concerned. Lawrie McMenemy, the Southampton manager, said "If he carries on like this then he will be challenging for full honors."

David Pleat, the Luton manager, yesterday quashed the rumour that Walsh was on his way to Anfield for £800,000. "It's a story that keeps cropping up, but there's nothing in it," he said. Liverpool might also agree – for the time being – as they smile contently upon Dalglish.

News to be taken more seriously in the Chilterns this week was the Watford bypass of their rivals, Luton in the league. Watford, just six points behind, are the most likely outsider to infiltrate the leading "UEFA Cup group".

Their win at West Ham, their 10th in the last 13 league games, and the visit of Everton today prompted Graham Taylor, their manager, to reflect upon the topsy turvy world in which he makes a living. In the first 15 games his side scored two wins and relegation was the topic then. Consistency among his personnel improved their fortunes. "At Christmas there was talk about the Everton manager's job," he said "but now Kendall has taken them to one cup final and hopes to make it two." Barnes, who impressively scored twice in midweek, leads the attack again in Reilly's absence and Gray is added to Everton's party.

The issue of relegation is embracing more clubs each week even if Wolverhampton Wanderers and Notts County look like goners. Sunderland, West Bromwich Albion, Birmingham City and Leicester City all have a foot in the quicksand, while Stoke City, up to their waists in it, may grasp a slender lifeline if they beat Notts County.



Not for turning: Walsh's move to Liverpool denied

TENNIS

Ocleppo's power gives Italy advantage

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Gianni Ocleppo, an unusual Italian, in that he plays his best tennis indoors, beat Colin Dowdeswell, 1-6, 6-2, 9-7, 6-2, in two hours and 18 minutes, to give Italy a 1-0 lead in their Davis Cup tie with Britain, at Telford yesterday. The match gave the new town an exciting introduction to the men's world team championship, and there were not many seats to spare in the indoor arena, located close to Telford's huge modern shopping centre.

This was the first time Ocleppo had played a Davis Cup singles affecting the outcome of the tie – and Dowdeswell's first Davis Cup match since he played for Rhodesia in 1976. Dowdeswell was overpowered by Ocleppo's stronger serving, and ability to hit fierce returns off Dowdeswell's relatively tame service, but there were two phases when it seemed that the match might go the other way.

Ocleppo made an inhibited start, surviving a break point in the first game, and then conceding seven consecutive games, without once reaching deuce. Dowdeswelk had time to profit from his quick and assured anticipation, and his deftness and daring. He was stroking or nudging the ball, rather than hitting it, but his touch and his tactical judgment were almost flawless.

In the second set, the sequence was almost reversed. Ocleppo won five games in a row, his nerves had loosened up, and he was therefore capable of hitting harder and moving faster. He worked himself into the ground, and the intensity of his efforts led to many theatrical glares in the direction of his captain, Adriano Panatta, whereas the seemingly languid Dowdeswell wore an inscrutable half-smile that gave no hint of the emotional stress within him.

The key to what was left of the match, lay in a 68-minute third set that provided a thrilling contract between Ocleppo's power and Dowdeswell's finesse. Ocleppo led 5-2, but had to serve for the set four times. Dowdeswell saved six set points, spread over three games, before Ocleppo took the set with a service winner to the backhand.

Had Ocleppo lost that set, in which he had deen so many chances drift away, his morale might have suffered irreparable damage. The confidence of both men was affected anyway, and in the fourth set the contrast between power and finesse became a contrast between the strong and the weak.

Dowdeswell defeat confronted John Lloyd with a task that was formidable on two counts. He had lost all his four previous matches with Corrado Barazzutti. He has also lost all three of the previous Davis Cup singles in which he has gone on court with Britain 0-1 down. Those three matches, however, were played in 1974, 1976 and 1977. Lloyd was still learning his trade in those days. He is a wiser and harder man now.

But there seemed to be no more than an even chance that he would revive Britain's hopes of reaching the second round and, in the process, earn a £5,000 bonus, from the British team's sponsors, Coca-Cola.

Well, Lloyd was equal to the challenge. He won 6–4, 3–6, 6–2, 6–3 to put Britain level.

Other Davis Cup results
BUCHAREST: United States lead Romania 1-0 (US name first). J Connors bt F Segarceanu, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
CHRISTCHURCH: Paraguay lead New Zealand 2-0 (Paraguay names first): F Gonzalez bt R Simpson, 6-1, 6-3, 6-8, 2-6, 6-4; V Pecci bt C Lewis, 4-6, 8-6, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.
DELHI: France lead India 2-0 (French names first): Y Noah bt R Krishnan, 6-2, 7-5, 6-2; H Leconte bt A Amritraj, 2-6, 6-2, 6-3, 8-6.
HRADEC KRALOVE: Czechoslovakia lead Denmark 1-0 (Czechoslovak name first): L Pimek bt M Mortensen, 10-8, 6-2, 6-4.
PERTH: Australia lead Yugoslavia 2-0 (Australian names first): P McNamee bt S Zivojinovic, 9-7, 4-6, 6-7, 10-8; J Fitzgerald bt M Ostoja, 2-6, 7-5, 6-1, 6-2.
STUTTGART: Argentina lead West Germany 1-0 (Argentine name first): G Vilas bt H-D Beutel, 6-6, 8-6, 7-5.

CRICKET

Pakistan already casting long shadow over England visit

From Derek Hodgson,
Auckland

Coming events are already casting long shadows across the Indian Ocean. Almost as soon as Bob Willis had announced an unchanged England side for the final one-day international sponsored by Rothman's at Eden Park today, the tour manager, Alan Smith, was adding that in certain circumstances he would be prepared to take the team home early from Pakistan.

England fly to Pakistan on Monday for a month's tour that includes three Test matches, the first of which begins in Karachi next Friday. On Thursday student leaders were saying that they intended to disrupt the Test matches as a protest against the government's proscription of students' unions.

Mr Smith reported that he had received the text of a cable sent from Charles Palmer, chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) at Lord's, to Major General Safdar Butt, president of the Pakistan board, asking for reassurances for the safety of the England team and accompanying party, on their arrival and throughout the tour, adding that "it should be possible to ensure that all matches are not interrupted".

Mr Smith added: "Our chaps have got to be able to give their minds wholly to the playing of cricket and it is up to the ground authority, wherever in the world, to see that order is kept. I do not have to refer to Lord's to make decision in those circumstances."



Smith: cable from TCCB

The TCCB's alarm is understandable but one cannot help but feel that they are backing the Pakistan board, and eventually the govenment, into a corner. No government would ever give an absolute guarantee that there would be no disorder at a Test match.

Willis had his way on keeping the England team that has already won the first two one-day matches and defended the decision by saying: "We know we will have to make changes in the side for Karachi but still felt that there was more to be gained by keeping the winning team together and aiming to win the series 3-0."

He was disappointed that his 50-over contest was being played on the Test match strip which was so bland that England and New Zealand had difficulty in each completing a first innings over five days.

● **KARACHI:** Pakistani students are threatening to disrupt the Test series against England unless the military governemt releases arrested students and lifts a proscription on students' unions. (Reuter reports). We are not against the England team or the tour. We want to disrupt the matches to draw would attention to our problems, a spokesman for a student action committee said yesterday.

SYDNEY: Sheffield Shield: New South Wales 94 for no wkt (rain) v Western Australia.
MELBOURNE: Sheffield Shield: South Australia 325 for 2 (M J Hilditch 186 not out, M Haysman 58 not out) v Victoria.
HOBART: Sheffield Shield: Queensland 223 (G Trimble 71) v Tasmania.
ADELAIDE: Youth International match: Sri Lanka 226 for 6 (A de Silva 120 not out) v Australia.

Sparkling Ritchie's quick start

Georgetown (Reuter) – An aggressive 64 by Greg Ritchie was the highlight of the opening morning of the Australians' match against Guyana yesterday. The stocky Queenslander scored his runs off only 69 balls in 85 minutes and helped the touring team to reach 128 for two by lunch.

After Border – deputizing for Hughes, who withdrew from the match with a strained hamstring – had won the toss and decided to bat, Guyana enjoyed an early success. Phillips was caught behind off an intended cut in Joseph's second over.

Ritchie attacked from the start, hitting three fours in one over from Charles and forcing the removal of the pace bowler from the attack. He reached his 50, which included nine fours and a six, off only 48 balls.

Smith, playing in his first match of the tour, was less assured than his partner and was missed three times in reaching 40 not out by the interval.

Ritchie fell at 102, superbly caught at backward short leg by Seeram as he attempted to glance the off-spinner, Roger Harper, who extracted unexpected turn from the pitch in the first session of the four-day-match.

AUSTRALIANS: First Innings

S B Smith not out	43
W B Phillips c Pydanna b Joseph	1
G M Ritchie c Seeram b Harper	64
A R Border not out	17
Extras (l-b 1, w 1, n-b 1)	3
Total (2 wkts)	128

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–9, 2–102.

Fisher are spreading the net wide

By Paul Newman

Fisher Athletic, today aim to reach the quarter-finals of the FA Trophy, non-league football's premier knock-out competition. The ambitious Southern League club, who are competing in the Trophy for the first time in their 76-year history, entertain Marine, the Northern Premier League's only representatives in the last 16.

Fisher, from the docklands area of south London, are also well placed to earn promotion to the Alliance Premier League, yet less than three years ago they were only playing in the London Spartan league.

Telford United, the Trophy holders, and Northwich Victoria, last season's beaten finalists, should both again reach the last eight: are at home to Bromsgrove Rovers (Southern League) and away to Dulwich Hamlet (Isthmian League) respectively.

Whitby Town, who entertain Frickley Athletic, have a chance of keeping the Northern League's flag flying and at least one Southern League club will be in the quarter-finals as AP Leamington face Chelmsford City. The remaining three ties are all-Alliance affairs.

Aberdeen unlikely to fall into same trap

By Hugh Taylor

Even though they may have lost some of the fluency which distinguished their play before the winter blizzards interrupted the programme, Aberdeen, who lead the premier division, should find themselves in little danger against a hapless Hibernian at Easter Road today.

Indeed, this game could see Aberdeen spring back to their best form, for they visit Edinburgh with more than thoughts of consolidating their four-point lead over Celtic to inspire them. They are determined to make amends for their display at Easter Road on October 15, when they lost 2-1. That was Aberdeen's last defeat, and since then they have enjoyed a sequence of 25 matches without defeat.

Although Strachan may be missing because of leg injury, Aberdeen are Hardly likely to be too sorely pressed by a Hibernian side who have failed to score in the past five games, and whose morale had been shattered by Scottish Cup defeat at the hands of the second divison club, East Fife.

In contrast to Aberdeen, who may be feeling the effects of the pressure of life at the top, Celtic, according to their manager, David Hay, have at last found a consistency of performance which, he suggests, will stand the club in good stead, in the final stages of the Championship. "I am sure there will be slips before the end, and we are now ready to take advantage of any mistakes made by Aerdeen," he said.

Celtic should be too powerful to be worried by Heart of Midlothian at Parkhead, even though the Tynecastle side showed battling qualities by wiping our a two-goal deficit against Rangers, in the last three minutes, a fortnight ago.

Rangers march on relentlessly, and should complete a Tayside double by beaing Dundee at Dens Park – if, that is, they play with the style and resolution which despatched Dundee United from the League Cup at Ibrox on Wednesday.

United, the champions, now appear to have lost their way, attacking confidence having vanished and hesitancy appearing in what was such a reliable defence. Changes will be made from the team which lost 2-0 at Ibrox, for the match with St Mirren at Love Street.

Mootherwell are badly hit by injury for the relegation tussle with St Johnstone at Fir Park and, as they have twice been beaten by their comarades in distress, a third defeat today could spell disaster.

Barham to miss rest of season

Mark Barham, the Norwich City winger, has had a three-hour operation on his left knee and will be out of action until Christmas. Barham, aged 21, has played only 12 full games for Norwich this season because of injury.

But West Ham United, who will be unchanged at Norwich today, had some good news in their struggle to overcome injury problems as Trevor Brooking was passed fit to start his comeback against Watford in the Football Combination.

Robert Wilson is back in Fulham'sfirst team squad against Shrewsbury tomorrow – 10 weeks after the gassing incident that nearly cost him his life.

Shrewsbury, who have not won a League game since their player-manager, Graham Turner, last selected himself – against Portsmouth on January 2 – will have the 36-year-old defender back on duty if – as seems likely – Pearson and McClaren, are both ruled unfit.

Another player-manager in nostalgic mood is Terry Cooper, the oldest footballer in the League – at 39 – who makes his first full appearance of the season for Bristol City in the fourth division promotion match against Aldershot

INDOOR HOCKEY

England juniors figure in the spotlight

By Sydney Friskin

Three members of England's under-21 indoor squad, Martin Grimley and Tim Rothwell, both of Alderley Edge, and Nick Clark, of South Nottingham, had a taste of the bright lights in the final stages of the National Club championship at Crystal Palace yesterday. England's objective is a place in the Junior European Indoor championship to be played in Vienna in 1985.

In order to qualify England have to play in a round robin series against Poland, West Germany, France and Italy at Poznam from December 14-16 and three teams from this group will go through. Wales and Scotland are in the other qualifying tournament, to be played from December 21-23 at Barcelona where their rivals will be Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

In the last European junior championships two years ago in Vienna England finished fourth and their aim now is to emulate their seniors by winning a European medal. They are to play a match against the Welsh under-21 side at Worcester on March 6.

Alderley Edge, overwhelmed 11-2 by Slough in the quarter-final round, had few answers to the speed, skill and experience of the conquerors. They managed to contain Slough for about ten minutes and from a corner, Hardman just failed to reduce Slough's 2-0 lead, gained through Manjit Flora and Bal Saini.

Four goals in the last few minutes of the first half increased Slough's lead to 6-0, Bal Saini having scored three more goals early in the second half through Manji Flora, Laly and Stel Partington, before Rothwell reduced the lead to 9-1. Bhaji Flora and Daved put Slough 11-1 ahead but Alderley Edge scored a consolation goal when Hardman converted a penalty stroke after Sutton had been obstructed by the goalkeeper.

Pickwick, from the Midlands, were beaten 9-2 by St Albans, for whom Keith Rowley scored four goals. Firebrands also went through after a 5-2 win over East Grinstead.

More Hockey, page 32

Spalding pitch in

Tretorn – Spalding, a sports goods company, have come to the rescue of the Irish professional 72 holes championship. They confirmed sponsorship worth £40,000 over the next three years. The prize fund will be £9,600, with the winner receiving £1,600, and it is planned to run the championship in the week beginning September 24.

ROWING

Top crews' first tests

The third day of Oxford University Torpids yesterday cleared the way for Christ Church and St Catherine's to provide the first serious challenges to the present leaders of the men's and women's first divisions, Oriel and Osler House (a Special Correspondent wqrites).

FIRST DIVISION: Christ Church bpd Keble. Exeter bpd Worcester; St Edmund Hall, Brasenose and Queen's bpd Lincoln, University bpd Balliol.
SECOND DIVISION: New College bpd Hertford; Magdalen bpd Osler House. Trinity, Corpus Christi and St Peter's bpd Keble II
THIRD DIVISION: Wolfson bpd Exeter II; Christ Church II bpd Pembroke II; Oriel III, Lincoln II, Merton and Wadham II bpd University II; Worcester II bpd Merton.
FOURTH DIVISION: St Edmund Hall II bpd Balliol II, St Catherine's II and Brasenose II bpd Queen's II; New College II bpd Wolfson II, Lady Margaret Hall bpd Exeter III
FIFTH DIVISION: Hertford II bpd Queen's III, St Anne's bpd Oriel V; St John's III bpd Keble III, Corpus Christi II bpd St Peter's II, Jesus III and Linacre bpd Wadham III.
SIXTH DIVISION: Lady Margaret Hall II bpd Keble IV; St Benet's Hall, Trinity II and St Catherine's III bpd Brasenose III; Oriel VI bpd St Anne's II, Linacre II bpd Keble VI
SEVENTH DIVISION: Linacre II bpd Christ Church III; St Edmund Hall III bpd Magdalen II, Trinity VI, Trinity III and Exeter VI bpd Merton II; Lincoln III bpd Lady Margaret Hall III.

WOMEN'S FIRST DIVISION: St Catharine's bpd Lady Margaret Hall; St Hilda's bpd Jesus, St Hugh's bpd Somerville; Wadham and University bpd St Anne's.
WOMEN'S SECOND DIVISION: Balliol and Lincoln bpd Wolfson; Trinity bpd Keble, St Hugh's II bpd Hertford; St Hilda's II bpd Corpus Christi.
WOMEN'S THRID DIVISION: Queen's bpd Lady Margaret Hall II, Brasenose II bpd Christ Church, St Hugh's IV and St Hugh's III bpd Magdalen, St Hilda's III bpd Merton.

Saatchi and Saatchi commercial 'grabs' people to boost attendances

Mrs Ridlington has brought a new shape to supporters at White Hart Lane

Bring on Mrs Ridlington, goes the cry at White Hart Lane when things are going against Tottenham Hotspur, and every time such a shout is heard, Mike Lewis, the Spurs commercial manager, beams a little wider. "It just shows the power of advertising," he says.

Readers outside the London Weekend Television area will need to be told that Mrs Ridlington is the lady clad in floral dress and carrying a hand-bag who runs on to the pitch with the Spurs team in their television commercial: she, too, is part of the team 'cos Spurs are all one big family, geddit?

Spurs are the first Football League club to resort to a television advertising campaign, and the fact that this is considered a revolutionary step must say something about the commercial mentality of the clubs that make up he League. With the first television advert, football goes surging into the 1950s.

And there is Mr Lewis, thumping a desk a fraction smaller than the flight deck of HMS Ark Royal, as he propounds with Welsh preacher fervour the unarguable doctrine of Heinz Baked Beans. "That is what it's all about!" he says. Heinz Baked Beans! Football is a product like any other, so why not use the accepted techniques for marketing a product? When you have a decreasing market, you seek to reverse the trend by advertising. And you go to the experts."

Spurs asked various advertising agencies to make their presentations, and the one that got the nod, of course, was Saatchi and Saatchi, whose track record of selling the unsellable is second to none. That makes Spurs the second Saatchi account that your average bloke knows about, but it is still one of Saatchi's smallest, "a mere matter of tens of thousands," Mr Lewis assured.

Unqualified success

However, it is not the campaign itself that has been the winner: it is the fact that the campaign exists at all. Its new value has focused a gratifying amount of media attention on Spurs, and Saatchi's won't exactly be complaining about the exposure. Especially as it has worked. "No question about that," Mr Lewis said. "It's been an unqualified success. The matter will be assessed fully at the end of the season when the complete set of figures will be available, but there is every chance that we will run another advertising campaign next season."

Over the 92 clubs in the League, attendances up till the end of November were down 1.3 per cent on the same period the previous season. Attendances at Spurs are 15 per cent up, and that without setting the Thames on fire in terms of results. Bring on Mrs Ridlington.

Spurs, you might say, are over the moon about these attendance figures. "You see, there is a hesitancy among league clubs where advertising is concerned," Mr Lewis said. "They tend to see it as white man's magic. There is still the old mentality in football, 'open the gates and they'll come'. But they don't any more. You've got to go out and grab them. People are ready to be converted, but you've *got* to grab them."

The much touted prospect of a kind of Darwinian super league, based on financial fitness for the fray, is depressing. The marketing premises that held good for football in the 1930s look less sound today. Mr Lewis is a great believer in the need for clubs to become independent of gate receipts, with clubs, pubs and leisure facilities, in the manner of non-League clubs: it is true enough that the old ways of surviving and prospering by simply flinging open the gates 25 times or so a season are no longer possible.

To reverse the decline in attendance is a real achievement. Glenn Hoddle and Osvaldo Ardiles may not be over the moon about Heinz Baked Beans, but Spurs and Saatchis have shrugged off all trace of the game's occupational disease, the dreaded parrot-like sickness. The punters are rolling up, and the turnstiles are going like Gatling guns. "We are overjoyed," Mr Lewis said. And so, I'm sure, is Mrs Ridlington. Mrs Ridlington, by the way, is real. She is the second lady whom Saatchi's have turned into a massively popular figure.

Simon Barnes

Experience decisive for Lewis

By Lewine Mair

Richard Lewis's performance over the first three weeks of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) satellite circuit hardly suggested that he would be on court today in the final of this week's event at the Ace Tennis Centre, Coventry.

Beaten in the second round during the opening week at Bramhall, he failed to get as far as the main draw at Telford. Then, last week at Peterborough, he disappeared on the first afternoon.

In yesterday's semi-final, Lewis, who wants to get back into the Davis Cup side soon, brought his greater experience to bear in defeating Stuart Bale, 7-6, 6-4.

Although Bale, aged 20 – Lewis is 29 – came close to winning each of Lewis's two opening service games, he was thereafter, only confident on his own service.

Lewis, who will tell that he never seems to have any kind of a flowing match against a fellow left-hander, four times had the chance of breaking Bale's service and going to 5-3 in the first set. He ultimately lost the game, but unlike British players on this circuit, he did not let the missed chance worry him.

Bale made a crucial error at net to give Lewis his first set point at 4-6 in the tie-break. Lewis did not waste his chance, collecting the next crucial point with a perfectly-timed backhand down the line.

Two double-faults from Bale in the space of three points enabled Lewis to go into a 54 lead in the second set. Lewis then met with little resistance as he served for the match.

In the second semi-final, Glen Layendecker, a Yale University graduate, defeated, George Jarck, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3. There was a certain lack of old world charm about this all-American contest and, after both players had complained repeatedly about line calls, the tournament referee, Tony Gathercole, was moved to change the umpire. "I wasn't unhappy with the job, he was doing", said Mr Gathercole. "However, with both palyers becoming so heated, I thought it in the best interests of the match to bring in someone new".

Semi-finals: R Lewis bt S Bale, 7-6, 6-4; G Layendecker (US) bt G Jarck (US), 6-3, 6-7, 6-3.

BADMINTON

England win over courts

From Richard Eaton, Ostend

England's men and women duly arrived at their scheduled destinations as group winners in the European qualifying zones of the first joint Thomas Cup and Uber Cup, sponsored by Marlboro, here yesterday. Unfortunately, the new courts, much needed to replace the dangerous existing ones, did not.

A distress call on Thursday to RSL, another company in England, resulted in different and better courts being shipped from Dover and then becoming mysteriously mislaid in a car park in Ostend because nobody apparently could recognize the transporting vehicle. That meant the courts did not reach the arena in time for the start of the day's play.

This, however, did not deter England too much. Indeed, for the first time for several days there was a sense of optimism about the men's prospects after a 5-0 win over Austria. That was because both the flu victims played, and performed competently – Martin Dew, England's leading doubles player, returning to his partnership with Mike Tredgett and Steve Baddeley, the England No 1, returning to the top singles position. The women beat Scotland 5-0.

UBER CUP: Ostend: Scotland bt Belgium 4-1 (Scottish names first). A Fulton bt I Swiggers 11-3, 11-0; P Hamilton bt A Boucquiaux 11-3, 11-0; S Bell bt M C Donney 11-4, 11-1. Fulton and M Johnson lost to Swiggers and G Vanhaverbeke 9-15, 9-15; Hamilton and E Allen bt N de Mey and S Langenaekens 15-1, 15-2. England bt West Germany 5-0 (English names first): H Troke bt H Krickhaus 11-4, 11-7; K Beckman bt G Zadewater 11-2, 11-2; J Webster bt D Hokel 11-0, 11-6; Beckman and B Giles bt Knickhaus and M Hagmann 15-9, 15-6; Webster and B Sutton bt Zadewater and C Hoppe 15-5, 15-11. Toronto: US bt Peru 3-2, Taipei bt Peru 5-0. New Delhi: South Korea bt Sri Lanka 5-0. Indonesia bt India 5-0.

THOMAS CUP: Ostend: Sweden bt Wales 4-1 (Sweden names first). S Karlsson bt C Rees, 15-2, 15-8; U Johansson bt R Burns, 15-10, 15-6; G Karlsson bt A Carlotti, 15-5, 15-2; S Karlsson and C Nordin lost to Rees and L Williams, 15-4, 9-15, 13-15. T Petersson and L Wengberg bt Burns and Y Lim 15-9, 15-11. England bt Austria 5-0: S Baddeley bt T Farooq, 15-9, 15-7; N Yates bt K Fischer, 15-3, 15-10; S Butler bt H Fischer, 15-3, 15-0; M Tredgett and M Dew bt J Ratheyser and G Hofleggar 15-5, 15-1; N Tier and D Bridge beat Fischer and Fischer, 15-8, 15-2. Wales beat Netherlands 4-1 (Wales names first): Rees bt A Ridder, 15-12, 18-15; Burns lost to P Peluppessy, 15-17, 10-15; J Murtagh bt G Van Der Vucht, 15-13, 11-15, 18-15. Rees and Williams bt U. Santosa and Ridder, 11-15, 15-10, 15-3; Burns and Lim bt Peluppessy and V Sithol, 18-15, 15-9. West Germany bt Iceland, 4-1. Toronto: US bt Taipei 3-2; Japan bt Nigeria 5-0; Canada bt Peru 5-0; US bt Nigeria 5-0; Mexico bt Peru 4-1, Japan bt Taipei 5-0; Canada bt Mexico 5-0. New Delhi: India bt Sri Lanka 5-0; Thailand bt Nepal 5-0. Hongkong: Semi-finals: Indonesia bt Australia 4-1; New Zealand bt Honkong 3-2.

SQUASH

Davenport's first final

By Colin McQuillan

Stuart Davenport, aged 21, the New Zealander now based at Wycombe Hills, Buckinghamshire, has been threatening for more than a year to disrupt the established order of things in world squash. At Bromley on Thursday night the threat was realized when Davenport reached his first major professional final, putting the world No 3, Hiddy Jahan, out of the Debenhams International Challengers Vase.

After 75 minutes of fierce and sometimes argumentative play under the new World Championship Squash rules, Davenport won 11-9, 11-8, 5-11, 7-11, 11-8 to prevent Jahan, aged 33, from making next month's final a repeat of last year.

Qamar Zaman, of Pakistan, defeated Jahan in the final of the 1983 Challenger Vase, which is the professional element of the nation-wide Debenham's Family championships and rates as the most important prize outside the regular tournament circuit.

Zaman efficiently disposed of the former British champion, Gawain Briars, winning 7-11, 11-7, 11-10, 11-8 in precisely paced games.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New Jersey Nets 110, Indiana Pacers 103; Cleveland Cavaliers 116, Philadelphia 76ers 109; Phoenix Suns 107, Kansas City Kings 95; Utah Jazz 143, San Antonio Spurs 142; San Diego Clippers 108, Golden State Warriors 103.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Semi-final: Barcelona 113, Limoges 94.

SQUASH RACKETS

TEL AVIV: Israel Profession Championships: Men's semi-finals: R Hill (Aus) bt R O'Connor (SA), 9-5, 9-0, 9-3; G Brumby (Aus) bt P Verow (Eng), 9-3, 3-3, 9-2. Women's semi-finals: A Smith (Eng) bt J Leach (Scot), 9-2, 9-7, 9-4; J Ashton (Eng) bt S Brown (Scot), 9-1, 9-5, 10-8.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Malvern v Malhough (Malvern names first): First pair: A Jeavons and C Mason bt J Heald and N Bryant, 15-4, 15-0, 8-15, 15-12, 15-6. Colts: A Searle and J Rawes bt S Moorhead and H Reeves, 15-13, 15-5, 15-5, 15-6. Junior colts: C Haworth and M Herman bt C Baker and A Robinson 15-0, 11-15, 15-11, 17-16, 11-15, 15-4.

CYCLING

VALENCIA: Tour of Valencia (after two days): 1, B Cornillet (Fr), 9hr 50min 19sec; 2, A Camarillo (Sp), 9:51:04; 3, D Knetemann (Neth), 9:51:48; 4, B Hinault (Fr), 9:51:51; 5, P Verschaure (Bel), 9:52:04; 6, R Dietze (WG), same time.
ALASSIO: Nice-Alassio race (150km): 1, S Roche (Ire), 3hr 58min; 2, R Millar (GB), 3.59:00; 3, J Bossis (Fr), 3:59:60.

SNOOKER

IPSWICH: Tony Cobbold Classic: Second semi-final: S Davis bt K Stevens (Can), 5–4.

GOLF

JAKARTA: Indonesian women's open, second round: 145: L Alderete (US), 74, 71. 146: Huang Yueh Chyn (Tai), 72, 74; S Furlong (US), 75, 71. 147: M Murphy (US), 75, 72. 148: K Rinker (US), 74, 74; B Kelly (US), 73, 75. 150: H Hartley (US), 77, 73; M Uenda (Japan), 75, 75. 151: D Dowling (GB), 76, 75; L Castillo (US), 79, 72; Tai Yu-Hsie (Tai), 75, 76.

TENNIS

VIÑA DEL MAR: Grand Prix tournament, second round: Tim Wilkison (US) bt K Urrestz (Chile), 6–2, 6–0; A Fillol (Chile) bt G Neuhart (US), 6–3, 5–7, 6–4; C Gattiker (Arg) bt R Rivera (Arg), 6–2, 2–6, 6–2; H Gildemeister (Chile) bt A Hartman (Chile), 6–1, 6–3.

SNOW REPORT

Cairngorm: Upper, middle runs, lower slopes: wide cover of wet snow on firm base. Vertical runs: 1,900ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 1,500ft. Glenshee: Upper runs: complete, wet snow on firm base. Lower slopes: ample nursery areas, wet snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 1,000ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000ft. Glencoe: Upper runs: complete, wide cover of wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: wide cover of very wet snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 2,400ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 1,200ft. Lecht: Upper, middle runs, lower slopes: complete, wide of wet snow on a firm. Vertical runs: 700ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000ft.

FOOTBALL

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Nautico 0, Gremio 0; Ferroviario 0, Santos 5; Joinville 0, Anapolina 0; Rio Branco 1, Atletico Paranaense 3.

GOLF

Brask takes over lead

Hongkong (Reuter) – Bill Brask, of the United States, scored 64, six under par, to take a four-stroke lead in the second round of the Hongkong Open championship here today. Brask started the day joint second, and recorded his second under par round, for a total of 130.

Mark James, of Britain, was second on 134, after a 66, but Sandy Lyle slumped to a disastrous 78, for 152, and missed the cut at 146. Two strokes behind James was another Briton, Michael McLean, who has a 68 today.

Yoshitaka Yamamoto, of Japan, the joint overnight leader, was on 137, with Brian Waites.

SECOND ROUND LEADERS: 130: W Brask (US), 66, 64. 134: M James (GB), 68, 66. 136: M McLean (GB), 68, 68. 137: B Waites (GB), 68, 69; Yoshitaka Yamamoto (Japan), 65, 72. 139: R Lavares (Phil), 71, 68; Yau Siu Ming (HK), 71, 68; O Moore (Aus), 65, 74. 140: F Minoza (Phil), 71, 69; Namio Takasu (Japan), 70, 70; M Clayton (Aus), 69, 71; R Alarcon (Mex), 68, 72; K Cox (US) 67, 73. Other British and Irish scores: 141: R Rafferty, 73, 68. 142: M King, 72, 70. 144: P Way, 74, 70; E Darcy, 73, 71. 146: S Torrance, 75, 71. 147: J Carr, 74, 73. 152: A Lyle, 74, 78.



James: four behind

Cullen takes lead

Lagos (Reuter) – Garry Cullen, a Nairobi-based Briton, hit a six-under-par 65 to take a two-stroke lead after the second round of the $184.00 (£126,000) Nigerian Open golf championship, here yesterday.

IN BRIEF

SNOOKER: Steve Davis, the defending champion, held a 4-2 lead ove Tony Knowles after the first period of the best of 15-frames final in the Tolly Cobbold Classic at Ipswich yesterday. Breaks of 52 and 63 helped him into a 3-0 lead before Knowles opened his account, based on a 41 break in the fourth frame.

TENNIS: Martina Navratilova and Chris Lloyd scored straight-set victories but Joanna Durie, the third seed, was beated in the quarter-finals of the US indoor championships in East Hanover, New Jersey, on Thursday (Reuter reports). Marcella Mesker a qualifier from the Netherlands ranked fifty-first in the world, beat Miss Durie, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, and will meet Miss Navratilova in the semi-finals.

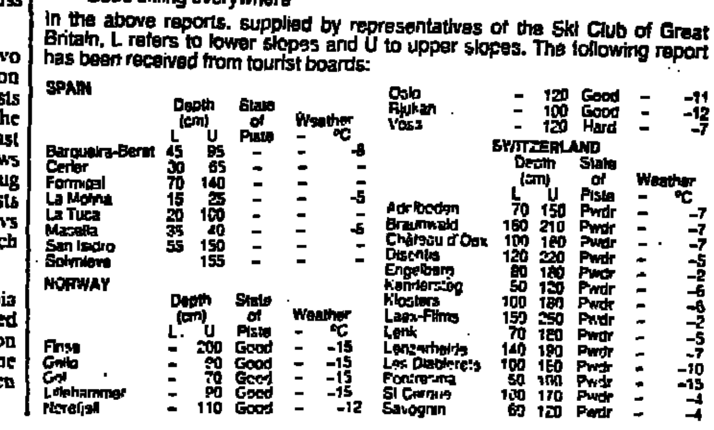
WINTER OLYMPICS: Sarajevo has earned at least $30 million (about £20m) from foreign tourists who visited the town during the winter Olympics which ended last Sunday, the state-run Tanjug news agency reported yesterday. Tanjug said about 12,000 foreign tourists and the same number of Yugoslavs visited the city for the games, which cost over $130m to stage.

● Rossland, British Columbia (Reuter) – Steve Podborski retained his Canadian downhill title here on Thursday but refused to accept the trophy because the race had been sponsored by a tobacco company.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Avoriaz	220	235	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	–2
Few icy patches on lower slopes							
Crans-Montana	180	250	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	–6
Good piste skiing							
Davos	100	180	Good	Varied	Good	Sun	–4
Excellent skiing everywhere							
Gstaad	70	160	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	0
Superb skiing everywhere							
St Moritz	55	75	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	–2
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Verbier	60	160	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	–4
South facing slopes icy							
Villars	60	120	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+3
Occasional icy patches							
Wengen	40	140	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	–3
Good snow on all slopes							
Flaine	185	350	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	–3
Good skiing everywhere							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from tourist boards:



SPAIN

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Barqueira-Beret	45	95	–	–	-8
Cerler	30	65	–	–	–
Formigal	70	140	–	–	–
La Molina	15	25	–	–	-5
La Tuca	20	100	–	–	–
Masella	35	40	–	–	-6
San Isidro	55	150	–	–	–
Solynieve		155	–	–	–

NORWAY

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Finse	–	200	Good	–	–15
Geilo	–	90	Good	–	–15
Gol	–	70	Good	–	–15
Lillehammer	–	90	Good	–	–15
Norefjell	–	110	Good	–	–12
Oslo	–	120	Good	–	–11
Rjukan	–	100	Good	–	–12
Voss	–	120	Hard	–	–7

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	70	150	Pwdr	–	–7
Braunwald	160	210	Pwdr	–	–7
Château d'Oex	100	180	Pwdr	–	–7
Disentis	120	220	Pwdr	–	–5
Engelberg	80	180	Pwdr	–	–2
Kandersteg	50	120	Pwdr	–	–6
Klosters	100	180	Pwdr	–	–6
Laax-Flims	150	250	Pwdr	–	–2
Lenk	70	180	Pwdr	–	–5
Lenzerheide	140	190	Pwdr	–	–7
Les Diablerets	100	160	Pwdr	–	–10
Pontresina	50	100	Pwdr	–	–15
St Cergue	100	170	Pwdr	–	–4
Savognin	60	120	Pwdr	–	–4

RACING

Clarinbridge to prove Irish juvenile strength

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The feeling that the Irish four-year-old hurdler may be better than their English counterparts this season will be put to the test at Kempton Park this afternoon when Clarinbridge takes on Lochboisdale, Son Of A Gunner and Northern Trail in the Tote Placepot Hurdle. Clarinbridge made a whole host of new friends at Leopardstown last Saturday when he won the Stillorgan Hurdle from Manpower and Northern Game, each of whom boasted good winning form.

Because that race at Leopardstown was not worth £2,000 Clarinbridge has escaped being penalized for today's race. So with only 10st 10lb to carry he ought to be hard to beat, especially as. Jim Bolger, his astute trainer, says that he will relish the ground, which is fast by jumping standards. In recent years we have come to appreciate that Bolger does not venture far afield without there being every likelihood of his returning home with the spils.

On the other hand Jeff King is the first to admit that he is worried that the ground may not be soft enough for Lochboisdale, who led Star Of Ierland and others such a merry dance at Sandown earlier this month. Kempton being on the sharp side will suit a front runner like Lochboisdale, but if the ground is not to his liking he may easily be cut down in the straight by Clarinbridge.

Son Of A Gunner was far from disgraced at Newbury a fortnight ago when he went down by two lengths to Childown because he was giving the winner 5lb. Now the weight concession to both Clarinbridge and Northern Trial looks like being every bit as tricky.

Paul Kelleway, a good jump jockey in his time but better known these days for his exploits training on the Flat, had a high opinion of Northern Trial last spring, but the colt never really fulfilled his expectations. However, that easy win at Wolverhamton earlier this month suggested that Kelleway's faith in Northern Trial may not have been misplaced after all.

If Royal Judgement manages to win the Mercedes Benz Handicap Chase as well he may he will underline the chances that both Burrough Hill Lad and Everett have of winning the Gold Cup at Cheltenham next month, because he has been runner-up to those two good horses in his last races besides finishing second to Burrough Hill Lad in the Welsh National.

Also with Cheltenham in mind it will be interesting to see how Crimson Embers and Gaye Chance fare in the Rendelsham Hurdle because at their best they should be in the front line for honours in the Waterford Crystal Stayers Hurdle. Neither took to chasing and disappointingly both came to grief when hurdling again in the same race at Ascot not long ago.

However, the fact remains that Crimson Embers did win the hurdlers marathon at Cheltenham two seasons ago and that he was also totally and utterly outclassed by Gaye Chance at Ascot afterwards. That performance points to Gaye Chance resuming the winning trail again this afternoon.

Likewise Desert Orchid's stout-hearted display of front-running at Wincanton on Thursday was surely an indicator that I Haventalight will win the Food Brokers Kinder Surprise Novices Hurdle. Runner-up to Desert Orchid at Kempton on Boxing Day and at Sandown afterwards, I Haventalight ought to appreciate this drop in class.

Falls at Huntingdon and Newcastle by Browne's Gazette and Sea Spice were yet more evidence that Michael Dickinson's superbly run stable was not infallable after all. However, yesterday's results at both Kempton and Southwall pointed to life at Harewood returning to normal. In the circumstances no one should be exactly taken aback if Wayward Lad, Browne's Gazette and Sea Spice all succeed in helping to put the champion trainer in a more contented frame of mind by winning their races at Doncaster and Stratford.

The presence of Spartan Missile, the runner-up to Aldaniti in the Grand National two seasons ago, a faller in last year's race but an entry for this year's Aintree epic, will be another reason to go to Stratford today. Nicky Herderson, his trainer, told me yesterday that he envisaged this race, another at Stratford in 12 days time – the one that is run annually in memory of his late father and brother-in-law – followed by the Fowhunters at Cheltenham being the ideal preparation for another assault on the National.

O'Grady set to take trial

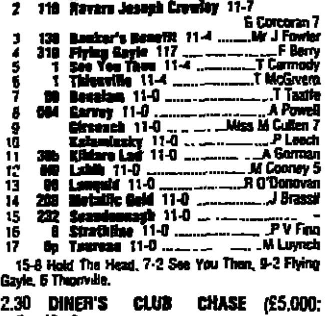
From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Drumlargan handsomely rewarded the patience of his trainer, Eddie O'Grady, when he carried off the Whitbread Gold Cup, last Spring. Now he can put his stamina to good effect again in the three and threequarter miles Ladbroke's National Trial at Punchestown this afternoon.

This is the longest race in the Irish calendar and Drumlargan, en route for the Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham, has to give away chunks of weight to his dozen opponents. These include a number of handicappers who showed up well in last Saturday's Harold Clarke Memorial Leopardtown Chase. Silent Number was going well when he fell at the 12th fence and with a clear round he could be the one to press Drumlargan.

Hold The Head and See You Then, currently disputing second favouritism in the Triumph Hurdle, meet in the Jack, Peter and Paul Doyle Hurdle. Hold The Head could only finish fourth to Dawn Run in the Wessel Cable Champion Hurdle last weekend but the ground there was too lively for him and he will find the Punchestown conditions much more to his liking.

Royal Fair, who has not been out of the first three in his last six runs under National Hunt rules, was unlucky to be beaten by Master Vincents at Fairyhouse and with a turnaround of 10lb must surely turn the tables in the Diners Club Chase.



GOING: Soft

[Televised: (BBC) 2.0, 2.30, 3.0]

2.0 JACK, PETER AND PAUL DOYLE HURDLE (£4,000: 2m) (17 runners)

1	214	Hold The Head J Bolger 11-7	–
2	110	Ravaru Joseph Crowley 11-7	G Corcoran 7
3	130	Banker's Benefit 11-4	Mr J Fowler
4	310	Flying Gayle 11-7	F Berry
5	1	See You Then 11-4	T Carmody
6	1	Thieuville 11-4	T McGivern
7	00	Bessiam 11-0	T Taaffe
8	004	Garvey 11-0	A Powell
9		Gireesch 11-0	Miss M Cullen 7
10		Kalamiusky 11-0	P Leech
11	30b	Kildare Lad 11-0	A Gorman
12	00	Lalili 11-0	M Cooney 5
13	00	Lenquil 11-0	R O'Donovan
14	200	Metallic Gold 11-0	J Brassil
15	222	Seandeunagh 11-0	–
16	8	Strathline 11-0	P V Finn
17	0p	Taurean 11-0	M Luynch

15-8 Hold The Head, 7-2 See You Then, 9-2 Flying Gayle, 6 Thionville.

2.30 DINER'S CLUB CHASE (£5,000: 2m 4f) (8)

1	f11	Master Vincent 8-12-0	Mr A Martin
2	110	Koppels 7-11-12	R O'Donovan
3	001	Kylane 7-11-8	M Berry
4	034	Mister Donovan 8-11-8	T Ryan
5	323	Royal Fair 7-11-8	A Powell
6	104	Gallant Royal 6-11-4	–
7	2-0f	Howarth Highway 8-11-4	–
8	000	Tele Jector 6-11-4	E Tyrrell 3
9	11f	Stonquogan 5-10-13	A Mullins

5-2 Master Vincent, 100-30 Mister Donovan, 4 Royal Fair, 5 Gallant Royal.

3.0 LADBROKES NATIONAL TRIAL HANDICAP CHASE (Grade III: £6,000: 3m 6f) (13)

1	343	Drumlargan 10-12-0	Mr F Codd
2	000	Gay Return 9-10-9	A O'Brien
3	01	Silent Member 9-10-4	T Carmody
4	f00	Hazy Dawn 9-10-2	Mr W Mullins
5	002	Beech King 10-10-0	M Sleator
6	00-0	Felicity's Pet 10-10-0	P Gill
7	000	Doubtful Venture 8-9-10	P Cavanagh
8	204	Tom Miller 7-9-8	B Sheridan
9	000	Yer Man 9-9-7	P Kiely
10	301	Caberdaniel 9-9-7	P Ryan
11	023	Bally Hampshire 9-9-7	P Leech
12	024	Macks Garage 9-9-7	D Fitzgerald
13		Graiguenamanagh 9-9-7	K O'Brien

5-2 Drumlargan, 5 Beech King, 6 Doubtful Venture, Silent Member.

Graham Bradley drives Lettoch (left) past Lean Ar Aghaidh on the run-in at Kempton (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Captain John adds to stable's cup of woe

By Michael Seely

Michael Dickinson's Cheltenham Gold Cup problems were further compounded yesterday when the champion trainer announced that Captain John, the horse who finished runner-up to Bregawn in the big race last year, was an unlikely runner at the National Hunt Festival. "Captain John has had a further setback" Dickinson said. "He has not been declared for Kelso on Tuesday and must be considered very doubtful for Cheltenham as well".

No decision has yet been taken about Bregawn after that mystifying performance in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup at Wincanton on Thursday. "It's hard to know what to make of it." Dickinson continued. "It's not as though he's had a hard season, in fact he's had a very easy time of it. To have refused suddenly like that is worrying.

"Blinkers are an obvious possibility, but I want to have a good talk with Graham Bradley when he gets back to Harewood. He can either go to Kelso or wait until Hereford next Saturday".

Meanwhile at Kempton Park yesterday, Lettoch continued the return to form of the rest of the Dickinson team with a gallant defeat of Lean Ar Aghaidh in the Manor Novices Chase. And as Mister Donut also captured the first race at Southwell, his stable has now had six winners so far this week.

Lettoch showed all the zest for a fight and the ability that has carried him to victory in seven races over hurdles and four over fences. Approaching the straight Lean Ar Aghaidh was travelling the easiest of the pack, but once in line for home Lettoch's stamina and courage came into play.

"I thought he'd definitely need the race," Dickinson said. "That will have brought him on a lot, but I'd like to give him one more race before Cheltenham, providing that the ground doesn't become heavy."

The Sun Alliance Chase now looks like becoming one of the most competitive races of the National Hunt meeting with Lettoch. A Kinsman, Duke of Milan and Forgive N'Forget all having been announced as likely starters. And Stan Mellor said that Lean Ar Aghaidh was also a certain runner provided that the going is reasonable.

John Thorne is alos looking forward to Cheltenham after Artifice's fine performance when finishing second to Spinning Saint in the Emblem Conditional Jockeys Handicap. "I was delighted with that," the Bridgwater trainer said. "He's got to have another go at the Queen Mother Champion Chase after that. That was after his first race for four months. We had a lot of trouble with his back, liver and his kidneys after that bad fall at Sandown. He couldn't move for a week afterwards."

The stewards' decision to disqualify Woolooware after narrowly beating To-Onero-Mou in the Littleton Handicap Hurdle was one of the most controversial of the season. After an inquiry and an objection by Larry Mancini, the jockey of the runner-up, the placings of the first two were reversed

"I thought that that was most unjust,' Toby Balding ,Woolooware's trainer said. "but I don't intend to lodge an appeal." Brian Reilly endorsed the trainer's opinion. "I consider that I have been very hard done by." the jockey said.

It must have been a difficult decision for the stewards. Both horses veered towards each other to race into the last flight of hurdles. But although Woolooware jumped across his rival, the pair did not appear to touch.

Hope for Paus

Aage Paus, who was suspended indefinitely by the French racing authorities in May 1981 after several of his horses had been tested positively for steroids, may be reinstated shortly.

The Norwegian trainer's case is now being reconsidered by the French Ministry of the interior, and provided they lift the ban as expected Paus could be back at Chantilly by the end of March.

Lengthy ban for Morgan

Bill Morgan, who trained Glasgow Central to win twice during the 1982-83 National Hunt season, has had his permit taken away for two years. Morgan, who trained at Dyfed, was found at a Jockey Club inquiry yesterday to have run both Glasgow Central and another horse, Royal Manx, when they were not in family ownership.

The rules of racing state that horses trained by permit holders must not be owned by persons outside the trainer's immediate family. The Disciplinary Committee, who told Morgan tha they would not consider a further permit for him until March 1896 at the earliest, heard that Glasgow Central was owned by Mr Brindley Thomas, and Royal Manx by Mr John Vaughan.

MONDAY'S ADVANCE GOING: Leicester: good.

Kempton Park ITV

[Televised: 1.45, 2.15, 2.45]

GOING: Good

Tote: double 2.45, 3.45. Treble: 2.15, 3.15, 4.15

1.45 FOOD BROKERS KINDER SURPRISE NOVICES' HURDLE (£2,884: 1m) (9 runners)

108	2	FINE SUN (BF) (B Hobson) M J Lambert 7-11-1	D Wilkinson
110	22	I HAVENTALIGHT (B Brazier) F Winter 5-11-1	J Francome
111	401	IOWA (W Harrison-Allen) C Wildman 5-11-1	B Wright
112	114	KEELBY KAVALIER (D) (Mrs J Durrant) M Lambert 6-11-1	P A Charlton
113	104210	LE PEARL (G MacDonald) D Gandolfo 7-11-1	P Barton
116	20	CAPTAIN PRY (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 4-10-5	P Scudamore
117		END OF THE ROAD (Winterbourne Construction) 4-10-5	NON RUNNER
119	040	MOUNT BOLUS (A Sandeman) D Oughton 4-10-5	R Rowe
122	4p	SIR BUTCH (G Herridges) P Haynes 4-10-5	J Lovejoy

1983: Very Promising 5-11-9 S Morshead (13-2) Mrs Rimell 13 ran.

4-6 I Haventalight, 4 Le Pearl, 6 Keelby Kavalier, 13-2 Fine Sun, 14 Captain Pry, 16 others.

FORM: Captain Pry (10-7) 8th beaten over 25l to County Player (gave 12lb) 19 ran. Nottingham 2m nov hdle Feb 18 good. Fine Sun (11-5) 2nd beaten 2½l to Shaw Brown (rec 10lb) 11 ran. Ayr 2m nov hdle Feb 10 soft. I Haventalight (11-7) 2nd beaten 8l to Desert Orchid (gave 4lb) with Keelby Kavalier (level) 4th beaten 25l 6 ran. Sandown 2m hdle Jan 7 good. Iowa (11-0) won 10l from Golden Brigadier (level) 16 ran. Newton Abbot 2m 150 yd nov hdle Feb 14 heavy. Le Pearl (11-13) 6th beaten 27l to Yankee's Princess (rec 16lb) 8 ran. Punchestown 2m nov h'cap hdle Jan 12 heavy.

SELECTION: I Haventalight.

2.15 MERCEDES-BENZ HANDICAP CHASE (£5,998: 3m) (10)

203	302f22	ROYAL JUDGEMENT (CD) (Lady Rootes) J Gifford 11-11-7	R Rowe
204	111231-	GALLAHER (CD) (Mrs C Bird III) F Walwyn 8-10-12	W Smith
205	0-00101	HENRY KISSINGER (C) (J Mansworth) D Gandolfo 10-10-6 (3 ex)	P Barton
206	001224	TOM'S LITTLE AL (B) (T Staddon) W R Williams 8-10-3	C Brown
207	2211f0	BROADHEATH (CD) (M Marsh) D Nicholson 7-10-0	P Scudamore
208	114-332	KING BA BA (D) (A Wates) R Gow 9-10-0	M Perrett
209	4112p0	EASTER CARNIVAL (D) (Mrs M Best) K Bishop 8-10-0	P Richards
210	21ppf4	INTERGRATION (D) (E Retter) E Retter 10-10-0	J Francome
211	00fp40	TWO SWALLOWS (CD) (G Steinberg) R Armytage 11-10-0	A Webber
212		[illegible]	R Stronge 4

2.45 TOTE PLACEPOT HURDLE (4-y-o: £7,539: 2m) (12)

FORM: Amrullah (10-6) 2nd beaten 2l to Deep In Dept (rec 2lb) 18 ran. Folkestone 2m 110 yd nov hdle Feb 15 good to soft. Black Falcon (11-2) won 6l from Silver Season (rec 1lb) 17 ran. Ayr 2m nov hdle Feb 10 soft. Son Of Gunner (11-5) 2nd beaten 2l Burannpour (rec 5lb) 5th beaten 14½l 7 ran. Newbury 2m 100 yd hdle Feb 10 good. Clarin Bridge (10-11) won 1l from Manpower (gave 3lb) 22 ran. Leopardstown 2m hdle Feb 18 good. Lochboisdale (10-10) won 12l from Star Of Ireland (level) with Amrullah (rec 3lb) 3rd beaten 13l 24 ran. Sandown 2m nov hdle Feb 4 good to soft. Northern Trial (10-5) won 20l from Pelham Line (rec 2lb) 13 ran. Wolverhampton 2m hdle Feb 6 heavy. Sacred Path (11-3) 2nd beaten 4l to Northern Flats (rec 7lb) 2l ran. Wincanton 2m nov hdle Feb 9 good. Society Boy (11-0) 3rd beaten 2l to Clinker (rec 7lb) 13 ran. Sandown 2m nov hdle Feb 17 good.

SELECTION: Son Of A Gunner.

3.15 RENDLESHAM HURDLE (Grade II: £5,780: 3m) (6)

401	040-10u	CRIMSON EMBERS (D) (B) (Mrs S Smart) F Walwyn	S Shilston
402	213211	HILL-STREET-BLUES (C) (D Crates) J Fox 6-11-9	M Coyle
407	f2-242f	GAYE CHANCE (D) (BF) Mrs M Curtis) Mrs M Rimell 9-11-5	S Morshead
409	3u-3p0f	HASTY STORM (Mrs G Brazier) F Winter 7-11-5	J Francome
410	p-02100	INDIANA DARE (B) (D) (Mrs D Cousins) J Jenkins 8-11-5	H Jenkins
411	100-000	MANTON CASTLE (CD) (R Shaw) R Shaw 10-11-5	A Webber

1982: Mellie 8-11-6 S Morshead (33-1) R Blakeney 15 ran.

13-8 Gaye Chance, 7-4 Crimson Embers, 8 Hill-Street-Blues, 13-2 Hasty Storm, 14 Indiana Dare, 25 Manton Castle.

3.45 GALLOWAY BRAES NOVICES' CHASE (£2,430: 2m) (16)

501	044111	MOSSY MOORE (B Chinn) B Chinn 8-11-7	J Francome
502	212123	RIVER RHEIN (CD) (C Bowen-Colthurst) 7-11-7	Mr G Mernagh
504	0132f0	BRAVE HUSSAR (D) (H Joel) J Gifford 6-11-0	R Rowe
506	010-213	FOXBOROUGH (M van der Woude) N Henderson 7-11-0	Mr J White
507	/3-0040	GOLDEN RIVER (J Rogerson) A Turnbell 8-11-0	Steve Knight
508	410003	PALATINATE (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) D Nicholson 6-11-0	P Scudamore
509	d20221	SILENT ECHO (D) (A Blakmore) A Blackmore 9-10-0	M Hammond 4
510	f222ff	SPANISH STREAK (BF) (Mrs M Ewbank) J Fox 7-11-0	M Coyle
511	f0/3440	THE CORINTHIAN (G Hartigan) G Hartigan 11-11-0	S McNeill
512	p40000	TUDOR BOB (A Alnight) R Atkins 6-11-0	S Smith Eccles
513	004022	WING VELVET (M Spedding) J Wright 6-11-0	K Mooney
514	00-0434	BUY NOW (M Gallagher) L Kennard 6-10-9	C Brown
515	003fp0	B JASKI (M Perry) G Thorner 5-10-6	R Kington
516	2-40231	CRACK A JOKE (D) (D Randle) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-6	S Morshead
517	0-02010	MERCY LESS (Sir G Glover) R V Smyth 5-10-6	A Webber
518	0000	PRUDENT MATCH (J Greaves) H O'Neill 5-10-6	G Newman

1983: Branding Iron 6-11-7 R Earnshaw (4-5 fav) M W Dickinson 13 ran.

3 Brave Hussar, 4 River Rhein, 5 Mossy Moore, 13-2 Foxborough, 7 Crack A Joke, 9 Spanish Streak, 10 Silent Echo, 12 Palatinate, 16 others.

4.15 PORTLANE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,658: 2m 4f) (6)

601	201210	COLD WINTERS (CD) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) L Kennard 8-12-4	R Linley
602	11-3100	KING OR COUNTRY (D) (Maincrest) D Barons 13-12-4	P Scudamore
608	0/23-13	PALMYRA-COURT (D) (BF) (C Bowden) F Winter 8-11-1	J Francome
611	120-010	SPARTAN MAJOR (B) (CD) (R Edwards) Mrs W Sykes 10-10-10	S Morshead
615	03-0033	GREENWAYS (D) (A Moore) A Jarvis 9-10-6	S Smith Eccles
616	11-pf00	UPHAM PLEASURE (R Brinkworth) P Gandolfo 9-10-0	P Barton

1983: Kathies Lad 5-10-3 P Scudamore (13-8 fav) A Jarvis 7 ran.

3 Cold Winters, 7-2 Palmyra-Court, 4 King Or Country, 9-2 Greenways, 5 Spartan Major.

Kempton selections

By Michael Phillips

1.45 I Haventalight. 2.15 Royal Judgement. 2.45 Clarinbridge. 3.15 Gaye Chance. 3.45 Brave Hussar. 4.15 Palmyra-Court.

Doncaster selections

By Michael Phillips

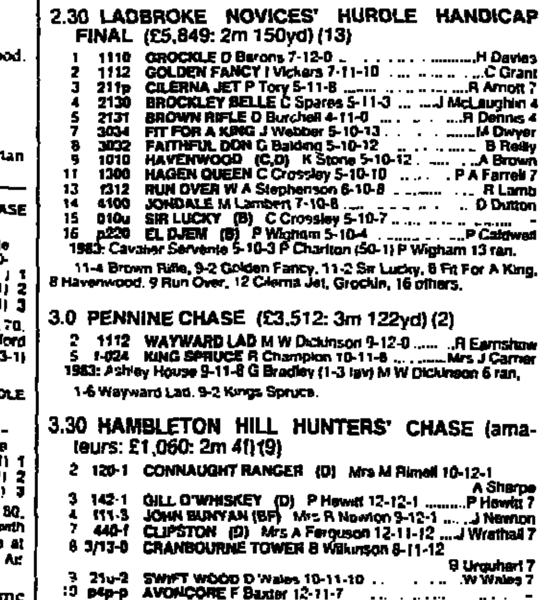
1.30 Polish. 2.0 Beamwam. 2.30 Brown Rifle. 3.0 Wayward Lad. 3.30 Swift Wood. 4.0 Derouleda.

Stratford selections

By Michael Phillips

2.0 Perdiccas. 2.30 Browne's Gazette. 3.0 Classified. 3.30 Sea Spice. 4.0 Spartan Missile. 4.30 Townley Stone.

Kempton results



Morshead: Kempton win

Southwell results

Going: Soft

2.0 ELSTON CHAPEL NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (£955: 3m 110yd)

MISTER DONUT ch g by Lucifer – Dalliance (K Molloy) 11-7 ... R Earnshaw (4-5 fav) 1

4.0 SOUTHWELL HUNTERS' CHASE (Amateurs: £1,094: 3m 2f)

HERNSHAW b g, by Great Heron – Lilgarde (R Crawford) 11-10-13 Mr P Crawford (50-1) 1

Midnight Court ... Mr N Bloom (7-1) 2

Caverion ... Mr T Garton (50-1) 3

TOTE: Win £23.20 Places £3.60, £2.70.

Doncaster ITV

[Televised: 1.30, 2.0, 2.30]

GOING: Hurdles, good; chase, good to firm

Tote: double 2.30, 3.30. Treble 2.0, 3.0, 4.0

1.30 DAILY MIRROR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHAMPIONSHIP NOVICES' HURDLE (Round 6: £1,903: 2m 150yd) (14 runners)

2	1401	SOLIDOR (C,D) O Brennan 8-12-3	N Pepper 5
4	0031	POLISH N Crump 6-11-10	R Balfour 5
6	0033	AMBER RAMBLER H Wharton 5-11-3	S Youlden
7	044	SETTABET GERAGHTY Miss S Hall 6-11-3	J Duggan
8	00/00-	DAWN RIVER N Crump 7-11-3	J D Davies 3
9	0043	DUBLIN WEST R Fisher 5-11-3	K Teelan
10	p	GOLDEN LEICESTER P Wigham 8-11-3	Sue Head 5
11	000	IMPANY R Robinson 5-11-3	A Fogarty 5
14	002	SILVER SEASON C A Bell 6-11-3	R Arnott 3
15	0003	TURI A Smith 5-11-3	P A Farrell 3
19		SWEET ECSTACY J Jefferson 5-10-12	M Hill 5
20	040	VINO FESTA J Parkes 5-10-12	Lynn Whiffen 7
21	1300	STATELY MAIDEN D Weeden 4-10-9	K Townsend 5
22	0400	MELTON ROSS D Morrill 4-10-7	P Blackburn 5

1983: The Welder 5-12-7 C Bell (2-1 fav) M W Dickinson 12 ran.

5-2 Polish, 7-2 Solidor, 4 Silver Season, 6 Amber Rambler, Dublin West, 15-2 Stately Maiden, 12 others.

FORM: Dublin West (10-9) 3rd beaten 3l to Mr Marshall (gave 8lb) 19 ran. Newcastle 2m 120yd nov hdle Feb 18 good to soft. Polish (11-1) won nk from Pebble Island (gave 7lb) 20 ran. Newcastle 2m 120yd nov hdle Feb 17 good to soft. Solidor (11-0) won 10l from Finale Sept (rec 7lb) with Amber Rambler (rec 6lb) beaten 10l hd 11 ran. Uttoxeter 2m 1f nov hdle Feb 10 heavy. Stately Maiden (10-10) 5th beaten 25l to Star of Ireland (gave 2lb) 15 ran. Fakenham 2m nov hdle Dec 16 good. Turi (12-2) 3rd beaten 7½l to Wold Rat (rec 14lb) 15 ran. Newcastle 2m 120 yd nov hdle Feb 18 good to soft. Silver Season (11-1) 2nd beaten 6l to Black Falcon (gave 1lb) 17 ran Ayr 2m nov hdle Feb 10 soft.

SELECTION: Silver Season

2.0 JOHN SMITH'S HANDICAP CHASE COURAGE CUP QUALIFIER (£4,045: 3m 122yd) (5)

6	0434	FORTINA'S EXPRESS (C,D) W A Stephenson 10-11-7	R Lamb

2.30 LADBROKE NOVICES' HURDLE HANDICAP FINAL (£5,849: 2m 150yd) (13)

3.0 PENNINE CHASE (£3,512: 3m 122yd) (2)

3.30 HAMBLETON HILL HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £1,060: 2m 4f) (9)

4.0 HUMBER HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,465: 3m 122yd) (13)

Stratford-on-Avon

GOING: Soft

2.0 LUDDINGTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£846: 2m) (20 runners)

1	/0-pp	FUGACIOUS M Hinchliffe 6-11-10	A Carroll

2.30 HAIG WHISKY NOVICE HURDLE QUALIFIER (£1,327: 2m) (17)

3.0 BIDFORD HANDICAP CHASE (£2,835: 2m) (2)

3.30 COLLIERS, BIDWOOD AND BEWLAY NOVICES' CHASE (£3,093: 2m 6f) (16)

4.0 GAY SHEPPARD MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £740: 3m 2f) (12)

4.30 SWAN HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,948: 2m) (13)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford regain prize asset for cup-tie

By Keith Macklin

After 24 hours of anxiety the Castleford hooker, Kevin Beardmore, was cleared yesterday to play in tomorrow's challenge cup second round tie against Warrington. Beardmore was suspended for one game by the disciplinary committee on Thursday, following a brawl with Alan Rathbone, of Bradford Northern, in last Sunday's league game. The appeal committee decided that Beardmore was not guilty of delibrate kicking and the ban was removed.

The presence of Beardmore will be a great asset to Castleford, in their game against the powerful and improving Warrington team, who have made no secret of the fact that they regard this as Wembley year. However, Castleford will be without the young second row forward, England, who was also suspended on Thursday.

The second round ties begin today, with the St Helens v Hull game. Hull have several injury problems, and their goal-kicking forward, Crooks, is out for several weeks. Consequently, they may find it tough against a St Helens side who have been recovering form in recent weeks, and who tend to play well above normal form in cup games.

Fulham should get an above average gate for the visit of Widnes, a match which gives the Fulham player-coach, Reg Bowden, a tilt against the Fulham club with whom he won many cup medals. Both teams had men suspended on Thursday, Doherty from Fulham and Steve O'Neill from Widnes. If Fulham rise to the occasion, there is a possibility of a surprise at Craven Cottage, with the Widnes performances developing a stutter of late.

Bradford Northern will be without the suspended Rathbone at Hunslet, and may find the skilful second division promotion hopefuls quite a handful at Elland Road.

The favourites, Hull Kingston Rovers, will have little difficulty accounting for the gallant but outclassed Doncaster. Wakefield Trinity should beat York, from the second division, and Wigan will attempt to take advantage of Oldham's recent troubles, which went a long way to being settled yesterday, with the appointment of the former Castleford and Dewsbury coach, Dave Cox, as team manager. Leeds should triumph over Workington Town.

HOCKEY

Visitor from abroad for Middlesex

By Sydney Friskin

Mark Precious returns from abroad to reinforce Middlesex for their crucial quarter-final match in the county championship against Surrey at Cheam tomorrow (2.00). Surrey and Middlesex have met twice in the competition before, once in a group match and then in the south final. On both occasions Middlesex won, the second match having been decided on penalty strokes. Both teams from the South final, however, qualified for the national rounds.

Precious will be supported in midfield by Potter. Better news for Middlesex is tha Kulbin (Danny) Bhaura has been going well up front and scoring goals. Surrey themselves have their usual strong squad of 16 except that there is a fitness doubt about Eyles.

Malcolm Wilkinson, whose hand injury prevented him from playing for Cheshire in the previous round against Warwickshire, hopes to be fit for tomorrow's match at St Albans against Hertfordshire. Steve Greene will be on the right wing fo Cheshire and Grimley at centre forward. Hertfordshire's three front runners will be Swerling, Geoff Hayward and Mobbs.

Norman Hughes returns to Yorkshire after a three week business trip to the Far East for their match at Huddersield against Worcestershire. Yorkshire have persevered with a young side which includes Byas and Bolland, two promising defenders from the England Under-21 squad.

Opening games decided by single goals

By Joyce Whitehead

The international B tournament began at Old Trafford yesterday with England and Wales winning their matches 1-0, against Ireland and Scotland repectively.

Some of the Irish team were delayed because of travel problems, but their contest with England was worth waiting for. After a goalless but flowing first half, Karen Brown, of Surrey, produced the decisive stroke, scoring a penalty goal midway through the second half.

Wales's victory was a dour affair in which defenders were dominant. In the first half, the Scots did most of the pressing, by Wales looked the more dangerous when they did manage to break away.

The Welsh ability to counter-attack eventually brought a goal of real quality. Sue Crowley raced into the Scottish circle and put the ball neatly round the advancing goalkeeper for Glynis Jones to run on to the loose bail and put it into the unguarded net.

YACHTING

Scuppered by fickle wind

From Adrian Morgan, Cannes

The wind refused to cooperate again at Cannes yesterday where all racing was finally abandoned after several aborted attempts.

Perhaps most disappointed of all was Mike McIntyre, who leads the Finns, Mike Holmes and Ossie Stewart, and Jo Richards and Peter Allam, both second in the 470 and Flying Dutchman class, after two races.

At one point, Stars, Solings and Flying Dutchman were forced to flee for the harbour as 25-knot gusts threatened to cause havoc. Then the wind dropped again to nothing. With only one day to go the regatta has degenerated into a fiasco.

هكذا من الأصل

BOXING: EUROPEAN MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Sibson's wounded pride put to the ultimate test

From Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent, Paris

The success or failure of Tony Sibson, in his challenge here tonight for Louis Acaries's European middleweight title, may have little to do with the French champion's actions. The outcome rests on the Englishman's state of mind.

His contest last month in Atlantic City, against Don Lee, of the United States, has left him with two scars, one mental and one physical: the shock of being beaten by the unrated American and a cut above the left eye that needed 17 stitches. That is why Sibson must put himself in the right frame of mind to get the bout over quickly.

If he is mentally alert, this should be possible, as the Frenchman is a slow starter, and could be intimidated by a couple of "Sibbo specials". If the contest drags on, Sibson's two disabilities could be shown up under the bright lights of the Bercy Stadium even though he has talked himself out of his fears with uncharacteristic aggression, and doctors have passed his eye.

However, Sam Burns, Sibson's mamager, is taking no chances, and has asked the experienced corner-man, George Francis, to be there with him.

Sibson has a good record of coming back strongly after defeats. Even after the Marvin Hagler dbêle, he had a quick and impressive win against a rated American, John Collins, but there has never been a setback so humiliating as that inflicted by Lee, o much so that even American televiosin, who were sold on the European championship, threw in the towel, leaving Sibson £20,000 short of £100,000.

Sibson says: "I'm never so dangerous as when I'm wounded," but boxers somehow are never the same after severe upsets, although whether Acaries is the man to turn this failing to his advantage, remains to be seen.

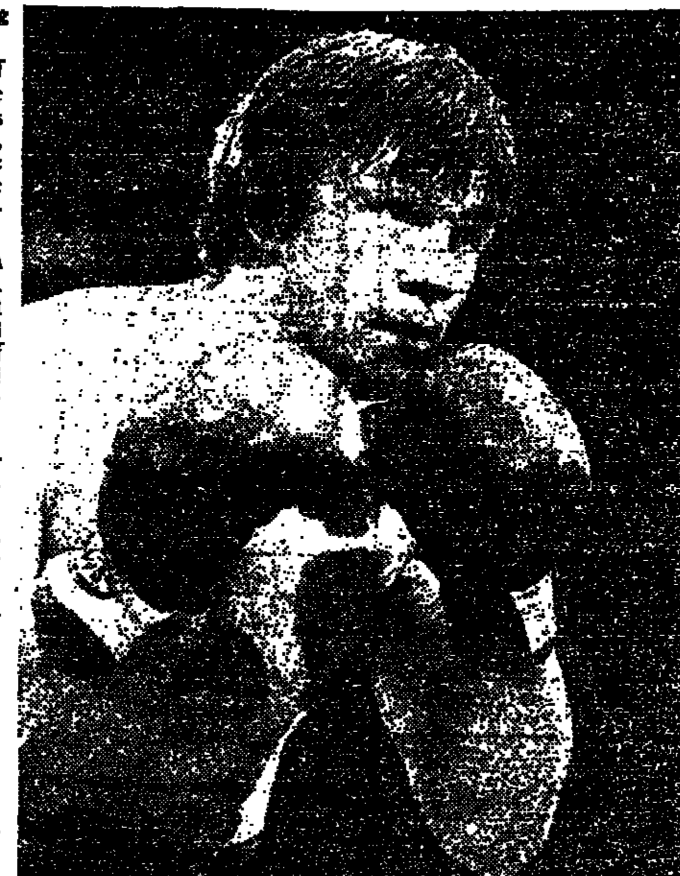
Had everything been right with Sibson, he would have no trouble with Acaries. In 1979, the Frenchman, now aged 30, was knocked out as a welterweight in one round by a British boxer, Des Morrison, who has now retired. Acaries has moved up in weight since those days, winning the European light-middleweight title, and beating a tough Yugoslav, Marijan Benes, on the way to his present position, as the top middleweight in Europe.

He was full of confidence after he saw Lee send Sibson to the floor on his television in New York, where he was training with Mustapha Hamsho. The Frenchman came back home full of himself, and brought in Jean-Claud Bouttier to help finish his preparations, 150 kilometres outside Paris, next to the home of his friend, the actor, Alain Delon.

Acaries is regarded as a good boxer, once he gets going after four or five rounds, and he was highly thought of in the Grammercy gym, on 14th Street, New York. He looked so good there, that many asked where this "world champion" had been hiding.

In the ring, he is not such a formidable proposition, because he is unhappy going the championship distance at a pace other than his own, but when he opens up, he is a world class boxer, according to his connexions. They say he is an accurate puncher, and will certainly make for Sibson's repaired eye, if given half a chance.

Acaries, who is a popular sportsman in France, because of his racing tips on radio and television, is pulling in his supporters at the stadium. But Sibson is the man to prove 12,000 Frenchmen wrong.



Sibson: his scars could be exploited

Christie presses claims for title challenge

Burt McCarthy, the millionaire promoter/manager, is pressing for his talented middleweight, Errol Christie, to challenge for Mark Kaylor's British championship.

After Christie's impressive second-round victory over the American, Dexter Bowman, in Birmingham, on Thursday night McCarthy renewed a £20,000 challenge to Kaylor. It was the unbeaten Christie's eleventh successive victory and McCarthy said yesterday: "Errol is ranked number three among British middleweights and surely now the Boxing Board of Control must soon give him the recognition he deserves.

"Fighting is all about money and I promise I will make this contest between Christie and Kaylor. I have already offered £20,000 to Kaylor to get him in the ring. The offer still stands and surely it is a fight which has got to come off pretty soon."

The other top-ranked British middleweight is, of course, Tony Sibson, who will be trying to regain his European championship from the Frenchman, Acaries, in Paris tonight. With Sibson's ambitions lying elsewhere Christie should stand a good chance of challenging for the British championship in the not too distant future.

Christie is keen to meet either, or both of them, soon. "I don't care in what order I meet them. I'm in hurry. It's a young man's game and I feel ready for anyone now", Christie said.

The Coventry boxer certainly gave the American boxer little chance to settle into his stride at Birmingham. Bowman, who is a karate black belt and a former Thai-style kick-boxer, had quietly tested Christie's defence in the opening round but that was as far as he got.

Christie opened up the second round with a flurry of combination punches which put the man from Alabama down for a count of seven. Bowman struggled back into the fray but it was not long before Christie produced a successsion of left jabs which forced the referee, John Coyle, to step in to stop the bout.

Spinks defence

Atlantic City (Reuter) – Michael Spinks defends his world light-heavyweight title against his fellow-American Eddie Davis here today.

Stevenson may fight title holder

From Robin Gregg, Los Angeles

The World Boxing Council is making strenuous attempts to arrange a heavyweight meeting between Teofilo Stevenson, of Cuba, who was Olimpic champion on three occasions, and the winner of the WBC championship bout between the Americans, Greg Page and Tim Witherspoon, in Las Vegas on March 9.

The title was recently surrendered by the undisputed heavyweight champion, Larry Holmes, who is now to fight John Tate under the auspices of the newly-formed International Boxing Federation.

According to the WBC president, José Sulaiman, proceeds from the Stevenson bout would go the the foundation for sports medicine, and the treatment of boxing injuries, so that there will be no danger of the Cuban infringing his amateur status.

This is a very important factor, Stevenson is expected to challenge for his fourth Olympic Games gold medal in the summer. Previous attempts to match Stevenson with professional heavyweights have for various reasons not come to fruition.

SWIMMING

An Albatross unlikely to be put to flight

By Athole Still

Britain's main Olympic medal contenders face a stern test of their early season form in the two-day internanal matches against West Germany, sponsored by Sun Life, which opens at Crystal Palace today.

The visitors, led by the world's No. 1 swimmer, the 6ft 6½in tall Michael Gross, have developed into the finest all-round team in Europe and will be more than a match for a British team missing most of its leading men, who are still training and studying at universities in the United States.

The incredible Gross, world record holder in both butterfly and freestyle events, known to his peers as The Albatross, will certainly accept with his usual gusto another opportunity to confirm his position as one of the best favourites for gold medals in the McDonalds Olympic pool this summer.

There may even be a glint of gold in the performances of some of Britain's contenders. Adrian Moorhouse, of Leeds, the British, European and Commonwealth breaststroke champion, test himself against Gerald Moerken, aged 28, the former world 100 metres record holder. "When I see the lights and the TV cameras, I feel 10 feet tall," Moorhouse has said. Here is another occasion for him to confirm his statue.

June Croft, of Wigan, has been selected to race in the 100, 200 and 400 metres freestyle events. She is rapidly approaching her best form as she demonstrated recently in Amersfoort, swimming powerfully on a world-record schedule for the first 150 metres of a 200 metres freestyle race, an indication that 200 metres and above could well prove to be her best distances. In the 400 metres freestyle, Miss Croft will be spurred by the presence not only of the talented Ina Bayermann of West Germany, who has a faster personal best time, but by her young colleagues, Sarah Hardcastle (Southend) and Annabel Cripps (Wigan).

Miss Cripps, who celebrated her sixteenth birthday last week, has set an interesting example of the trend reversal. Her father, an English doctor and former butterfly international now working in the United States, has sent her back across the Atlantic to train with Keith Bewley's powerful international squad at Wigan.

Miss Hardcastle, aged 14, who won a European bronze medal in the 800 metres last season, has been swimming up to 100,000 metres a week under her coach, Mike Higgs. Her taper for this match has consisted of reducing the distance to a still substantial 70,000 metres.

Despite the absence through illness or injury of Jackie Wilmott (Southend) and Ann Osgerby (Wigan) the women's team should provide a much closer match than the men.

Bjorn again

Tokyo (Reuter) – Bjorn Borg will compete in a $200,000 (£140,000) invitation tournament starting here on May 9. The Swede, men's singles winner at Wimbledon five times, retired from grand prix tournaments last year and has played only exhibition matches since.

Lendl withdraws

Mardrid (AFP) – Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, has withdrawn from next week's Madrid grand prix tournament, because of an injured knee. He will be replaced by the United States open champion, Jimmy Connors.

MOTOR RALLYING

Events will feature new-look MG Metro

By John Blunsden

Austin Rover have announced an extended race and rally programme for 1984, of which the highlight is a new concept in rally cars which the company has devised in collaboration with Williams Grand Prix Engineering.

The MG Metro 6R4, of which two prototypes have been built and three more are in an advanced stage of construction, looks superficially like a road-going Metro, but in fact is very different beneath the skin. It features a 250hp V6 2½ litre engine mounted amidships behind a two-seater cockpit and driving to all four wheels. The body structure and outer skins are made of a mixture of steel, and carbon and glass fibre material widely used in current Formula One car design.

The engine used in the prototype car is a cut down version of the V8 used in the Rover Vitesse, which dominated the British car championship last year and will be used in an onslaught on the European touring car championship

However, an entirley new 2½ litre V6 engine in under development for the four-wheel-drive Metro. The plan is to enter a Metro 6R4 in a rally within the next six weeks as part of a year-long development programme, and next year 200 production examples will be built at Longbridge to enable the car to compete under Group B regulations in the the world rally championships. The aim is outright victory and a level of domination last enjoyed by the company in the days of the Mini.

ATHLETICS

Champion says Olympic course is dangerous

Los Angeles (AFP) – Robert de Castella, of Australia, the world marathon champion, has criticized this year's Los Angeles Olympics marathon course as being "very dangerous". One of the favourites for the race, de Castella, aged 27, is in Los Angeles for promotional purposes and his criticisms inevitably concern heat and pollution.

"I try not to think about it. It's scary to think the best athletes are going to be subjected to conditions like this in what is supposed to the world's ultimate sporting event," he said. "I was in Los Angeles last summer. I know how hot it gets here. Just running a world championship or a major marathon in the summer is dangerous for top runners, but running an Olympic marathon in the summer in the pollution of Los Angeles is very dangerous."

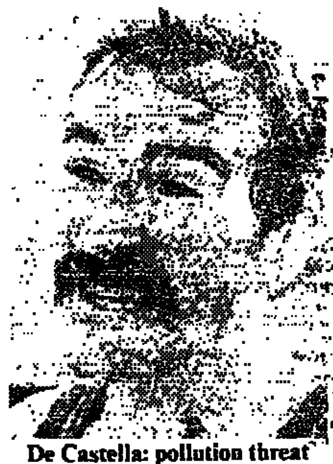
De Castella, a bio-physicist at the Australian Sports Institute explained his fears for the Olympic marathon, scheduled for August 12. Nobody knows, no physiologist knows what potential dangers the runners are going to subject themselves to," he said. "I don't know whether they're going to slow down their performances, running say, one of two minutes slower than their best, or whether they are going to subject themselves to any permanent damage.

"At their last conference, the medical people in every team competing in the Olympics asked the Los Angeles orgainzing committee to change the time of the race, scheduled about 5.30pm, but they took no notice.

"If they won't listen to the doctors, they won't listen to the runners. Luckily, the race is scheduled for a Sunday, the industrial pollution might be a little less, the temperature might be a little lower. Bur, ideally, the marathon should be run early in the morning, six or seven o'clock, but it doesn't fit in with television.

"The only thing the athlete can acclimatize himself for in such a competition is the heat. But there is no way he can condition himself to compete in the pollution. Certain athletes are going to be more prone to the effects of pollution than others. But it is just like hay fever or allergic responses. We can't do anything against that."

De Castella, from Canberra, did not compete in last weekend's Los Angeles marathon, held early on Sunday, and won by Gidamis Shahanga, of Tanzania, the 1982 commonwealth 10,000 metres champion.



De Castella: pollution threat

More cash for Korea

Seoul (Reuter) – The International Olympic Committee will give South Korea $135,000 this year to help promote sports in the country.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER FIXTURES

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

First division

Aston Villa v Wolves
Leicester v Ipswich
Liverpool v QP Rangers
Manchester U v Sunderland
Norwich v West Ham U
Nottm F v Arsenal
Stoke v Notts County
Tottenham H v Birmingham
Watford v Everton
West Brom Alb v Coventry

Second division

Cambridge U v Portsmouth
Chelsea v Carlisle
C Palace v Grimsby
Derby v Huddersfield
Fulham v Shrewsbury
Leeds v Barnsley
Middlesbrough v Manchester C
Newcastle v Cardiff
Oldham v Blackburn
Sheffield W v Brighton
Swansea v Charlton

FA TROPHY: Third round: AP Leamington v Chelmsford; Barnet v Kidderminster; D Hamlet v Northwich V; Fisher A v Marine; Gateshead v Bangor C; Nuneaton v Dagenham; Telford U v Bromsgrove; Whitby T v Frickley.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bath v Yeovil; Boston V v Weymouth; Kettering v Trowbridge; Maidstone v Altrincham; Runcorn v Enfield; Scarborough v Worcester.
NORTHER PREMIER LEAGUE: Barrow v Worksop; Hyde U v Rhyl; Macclesfield v Burton A; Matlock v Southport; Morecambe v Grantham; Oswestry v Goole; Stafford R v Mossley; Witton A v Gainsborough; Workington v S Liverpool.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal v Chelsea; Bristol R v Reading; Luton v QPR; Southampton v Brighton; West Ham U v Watford.
IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Cliftonville; Ballymena v Carrick R; Crusaders v Glenavon; Larne v Bangor; Linfield v Distillery; Newry T v Glentoran; Portadown v Coleraine.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedworth v Alvechurch; Cheltenham v King's Lynn, Corby v Sutton Coldfield; Dorchester v Stourbridge; Fareham v Dartford; Gravesend v Gosport; Witney v Hastings. Midland division: Aylesbury v Oldbury; Banbury v Willenhall; Bridgnorth v Wellingboro; Bridgwater v Leicester United; Bromsgrove v V S Rugby; Coventry S v Forest Green Rovers; Dudley v Moor Green; Redditch v Rushden; Tamworth v Milton Keynes. Southern division: Addleston v Poole; Andover v Dunstable; Ashford v Woodford; Basingstoke v Thanet; Cambridge City v Crawley; Dover v Hillingdon; Hounslow v Salisbury; R S Southampton v Erith and Belvedere; Tonbridge v Canterbury; Waterlooville v Chatham.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harlow T v Carshalton A; Hayes v Croydon; Hitchin T v Hendon; Slough T v Bromley; Tooting & Mitcham v Staines T; Walthamstow A v Bishop's Stortford; Worthing v Harrow B; Wycombe W v Bognor Regis T.

Third division

Bolton v Port Vale
Brentford v Sheffield U
Burnley v Lincon
Gillingham v Exeter
Oxford U v Bournmouth
Plymouth v Hull C
Preston NE v Millwall
Rotherham v Wimbledon
Scunthrope v Britol R
Walsall v Bradford C

Fourth division

Bristol C v Aldershot
Chesterfield v Blackpool
Colchester v Swindon
Halifax v Doncaster
Harlepool v Mansfield
Hereford v Torquay
Northampton v Crewe
Reading v York C
Rochdale v Darlington
Wrexham v Bury

First division: Aveley v Woking; Chesham U v Farnborough T; Cheshunt v Hornchurch; Epsom & Ewell v Tilbury; Feltham v Oxford C; Hampton v Windsor & Eton; Kingstonian v Lewes; Leatherhead v Walton & Hersham; Maidenhead U v Metropolitan P; Wembley v Hertford T.
Second division: Barton R v Finchley; Basildon U v Letchworth GG; Grays A v Eastbourne U; Hungerford T v Corinthian C; Molesey v Leyton W; Rainham T v Epping T; Southall v Hemel Hempstead; Tring T v Egham T; Uxbridge v Horsham; Ware v Newbury T.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Chalfont St Peter v Thatcham T; Chertsey T v Burnham; Edgware v Berkhamsted T; Flackwell H; v Horley T; Fleet T v Wolverton T; Harefield U v Banstead A; Haringey B v Camberley T; Harlow v Harwich & Parkeston; Redhill v Ruislip Manor; Redhill v Ruislip Manor; Whyteleafe v Hoddesdon T.
SOUTH-EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.00): First Division: Arsenal v Norwich (London Colney); Fulham v West Ham U (Southall); Ipswich T v Charlton (Portman Road); Millwall v Cambridge U (Eltham); Orient v Watford (Ive Farm, Leyton); Portsmouth v Tottenham (Eastney); Southend U v QPR (Roots Hall). Second division: Brighton v Luton (Lancing College); West Ham U v Swindon (Chadwell Heath).
ARTHURIAN LEAGUE (2.30): Premier division: Bradfieldians v Foresters; Carthusians v Brentwoods; Lancing OB v Harrovians; Malvernians v Cholmeleians.
First division: Reptonians v Wellingburians; Salopians v Aldenhamians; Westminsters v Ardinians; Wykehamists v Citizens.
WESTERN LEAGUE: Barnstaple v Frome; Chippenham v Dawlish; Devizes v Shepton Mallet; Exmouth v Bideford; Mangotsfield v Plymouth; Taunton v Bristol Manor Farm.
Somerset premier cup: Wellington v Clevedon; Weston-super-Mare v Minehead.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: A Frodingham v Winterton R; Arnold v Boston; Bentley v Ilkeston; Bridlington T v Spalding U; Eastwood T Thackley; Emley v Heanor T; Mexborough T v Guisborough T.

Scottish premier division

Celtic v Hearts
Dundee v Rangers
Hibernian v Aberdeen
Motherwell v St Johnstone
St Mirren v Dundee U

Scottish first division

Airdrie v Hamilton
Ayr v Clyde
Brechin v Alloa
Clydebank v Kilmarnock
Dumbarton v Raith
Falkirk v Meadowbank
Morton v Partick T

Scottish second division

Albion R v Q of South
Arbroath v Montrose
Dunfermline v Stranraer
East Fife v Forfar
Stenhousemuir v Cowdenbeath
Stirling A v Berwick

NORTH-WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Accrington S v St Helens T; Ashton U v Congleton T; Burscough v Netherfield; Glossop v Darwen; Lancaster C v Formby; Leek T v Bootle; Leyland M v Curzon A; Penrith v Radcliffe B; Prescot Cables v Caernarfon T; Winsford U v Stalybridge.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: First round: Borsham W v Sutton U.
THAMESIDE TROPHY: First round: Barking v Leytonstone and Ilford.
BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP: Semi-final: Abingdon U v Wokingham T.
NORTHERN LEAGUE: Billingham v Crook; Bishop Auckland v Blyth Spartans; Evenwood v Whitley Bay; Gretna v Tow Law; North Shields v Peterlee; Shildon v Consett; South Bank v Ashington, Spennymoor v Horden.

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL B Team Tournament (at Old Trafford, Manchester): Scotland v England (10.0); Ireland v Wales (10.30); England v Wales (1.45); Scotland v Ireland (2.15).
COUNTY MATCHES (2.0): Bedfordshire v Suffolk (Bedford HC); Essex v Surrey (Rickstones School, Witham); Oxfordshire v Warwickshire (Oxford); Bedfordshire A v Suffolk A (Bedford HC); Essex A v Surrey A (Rickstones School, Witham).

Third division

Orient v Southend (11.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP CUP
Second round

Castleford v Warrington (3.30)
Fulham v Widnes
Hull K R v Doncaster
Hunslet v Bradford Northern (3.30)
St Helens v Hull (2.15)
Wakefield T v York (3.30)
Wigan v Oldham
Workington T v Leeds (3.30)
FIRST DIVISION: Salford v Whitehaven.

RUGBY UNION
JOHN PLAYER CUP
Fourth round

Blackheath v Bath
Bristol v L Welsh
Coventry v L Irish
L Scottish v Northampton (2.30)
Moseley v Nottingham
Orrell v Wasps
Plymouth A v Harlequins (2.45)
Waterloo v Richmond (2.45)

WELSH CUP
Quarter final

Ebbw Vale v Aberavon
Llanelli v Pontypool
Neath v Newport
Newbridge v Cardiff

CLUB MATCHES

Bridgend v Bedford
Broughton P v Harrogate (2.45)
Glamorgan W v S Wales Police
Gloucester v Liverpool
Gosforth v Met Police (2.30)
Headingley v Hartlepool
Leicester v Rosslyn P
Nuneaton v Weston-super-Mare
Roundhay v Sale (2.30)
Saracens v Cambridge U
Wilmslow v Vale of Lune
Maesteg v Pontypridd
Penarth v Cross Keys

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION

Ayr v Kilmarnock
Haddington v Gala
Hawick v West of Scotland
Kelso v Boroughmuir
Melrose v Heriot's FP
Selkirk v Stewart's/Mel FP
Watsonians v Jed-Forest

LONDON LEAGUE (2.45): Premier division: Spencer v Beckenham. League: Bromley v Hampstead; Dulwich v Guildford; Maidenhead v Blackheath; Mid-Surrey v Hawks; Old Kingstonians v Reading; Purley v Oxford University; St Albans v Surbiton; Slough v Cheam; Tulse Hill v London University; Wimbledon v Teddington.

EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedford v Ipswich; Blueharts v Harleston Magpie; Broxbourne v Long Sutton; Cambridge C v Norwich Grasshoppers; Forde v Old Loughtonians; Norfolk W v Bishop's Stortford; Pelicans v Chelmsford; Westcliff v St Neots.
SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham v Lyons; Anchorians v Canterbury; Chichester v Walton; East Grinstead v Trojans; Fareham v Bognor; Folkestone v Eastcote; Indian Gymkhana v Oxford Hawks; Met Police v Camberley.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES (2.30): Army v Brooklands (United Services SG., Portsmouth); RAF v Hounslow (RAF Uxbridge, Vine Lane); Royal Navy v Bowdon (United Services SG, Portsmouth).
OTHER MATCH: Southgate v Richmond.

RUGBY LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIP CUP
Second round

St Helens v Hull (2.15)

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division (8.0): Birmingham v Brighton Bears; Bolton v Solent Stars; Hemel Hempstead v Sunderland; Doncaster v Bracknell Pirates.
Second division (7.30): Plymouth v Colchester; Bradford Mythbreakers v Merseyside Mustangs; Gateshead v Watford Royals.
First division (women): Manchester v Southgate (7.30); Colchester v Solent Suns (4.0).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier Division: Cleveland Bombers v Murrayfield Racers (6.30); Nottingham Panthers v Dundee Rockets (6.30). First Division: Bournemouth Stags v Crowtree Chiefs (3.0); Grimsby Buffaloes v Deeside Dragons (7.15).

VOLLEYBALL

Scotish First division: Dundee Kirton v Falkirk, Volvo Trucks v Airdrie, DV 31 v Team TAK, Murray International Metals v Bellshill Cardinals, Paisley v Whitburn. Women Whitburn v Kyle, West Coast Women v Larbert HSFP's, Inverclyde v Telford Tigers, Carluke v Sports Conscious DCPE, Auchentoshan v Telford.

TOMORROW

SECOND DIVISION: Blackpool B v Cardiff City; Carlisle v Halifax; Dewsbury v Kent Invicta (3.30); Huyton v Huddersfield; Keighley v Bramley (3.15); Rochdale H v Barrow.

HOCKEY

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-finals (2.0): Cambridgeshire v Gloucestershire (Parkers Piece, Cambridge); Hertfordshire v Cheshire (St Albans HC); Surrey v Middlesex (Cheam HC); Yorkshire v Worcestershire (Huddersfield HC).
SOUTH LEAGUE: Middlesex, First division: Kodak v St Bernards Hospital (2.45).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: first division: Sunderland v Birmingham (4.0); Warrington v Doncaster (4.0); Brighton Bears v Kingston (4.0); Crystal Palace v Manchester Giants (3.30).
Second division: Camden v Calderdale Explorers (3.30); Newcastle v Sandwell (4.0); Nottingham v Watford Royals (4.0); Portsmouth Buccaneers v Colchester (4.0); Brunel Ducks Uxbridge v Gateshead (4.0).
First division (women): Northampton v Sandwell (3.30); Nottingham v Brighton Wasps (2.0); Crystal Palace v London YMCA Bobcats (1.30).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier Division: Dundee Rockets v Fife Flyers (7.0); Murrayfield Racers v Ayr Bruins (6.30); Streatham Redskins v Durham Wasps (6.0); Whitley Warriors v Cleveland Bombers (6.30). First Division: Altrincham Aces v Grimsby Buffaloes (5.30); Southampton Vikings v Crowtree Chiefs (6.0).

Chancery Division — Law Report February 25 1984 — Queen's Bench Division

Solicitors alerted to consequences of breach of undertaking

Refson & Co Ltd v Saggers and Another
Exclusivity Horlogere Ltd v Peoples Jewellers Ltd and Others
Whittaker v Jolley

Before Mr Justice Nourse

[Judgment delivered February 23]

Failure by intended plaintiffs to issue writs until long after undertakings to do so had been given by them in return for *ex parte* interim injunctions was a serious breach of those undertakings and accordingly the intended plaintiffs were in contempt of court, but while they were personally blameless and not deserving of any penalty, the failure of their solicitors, upon whom the plaintiffs were relying, to implement those undertakings, was a grave breach of the solicitors' duty to the court which could in certain circumstances amount to an aiding or abetting of the contempt or alternatively appropriate action might be taken under the court's punitive or compensatory jurisdiction over solicitors for example by making a report to the Law Society.

Mr Justice Nourse so held in the Chancery Division in respect of hearings in which each firm of solicitors had been required to attend with counsel in order to give an explanation of the apparent breach of the undertaking. His Lordship decided to take no action in any of the three cases but gave due warning that a similarly lenient approach might not be appropriate in the future.

Mr Simon Berry for Refson & Co; Mr Edward Bragiel for Exclusivity Horlogere Ltd; Mr Roger Kaye for Mr Whittaker.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that in the week before Christmas three intended plaintiffs in three separate intended actions were granted *ex parte* interim injunctions over the beginning of this term on undertakings to issue a writ in two cases "forthwith" and in the third "as soon as reasonably practicable". There was no difference in meaning or effect between those two expressions.

It was usual to grant such relief in urgent cases but unusual and deplorable that in each of those cases the writ was not issued until long after the undertaking was given; the periods being 16 days, 18 days and 19 days respectively.

There was no doubt that the *intended plaintiff in each* case was in breach of his undertaking and accordingly in contempt of court. Although each undertaking, in accordance with practice, was the undertaking of the intended plaintiff himself, it was obvious that its expeditious implementation was the concern of his legal advisers: principally but not exclusively, that of his solicitors.

In each case the writ was not issued until after the court had communicated with the intended plaintiff's solicitors.

Each firm was required to attend with counsel on the return day for the *inter partes* motion in order to give an explanation for the apparent breach of the undertaking and after an adjournment in each case counsel was heard on the merits, judgment being reserved in each case.

In *Refson & Co Ltd v Saggers*, where an interim injunction had been granted by Mr Justice Harman just after 4 pm on December 19 of last term both counsel and solicitors unreservedly acknowledged the breach of the undertaking and fully recognized the seriousness of it.

The writ ought to have been issued on December 20 or in any event before the writ office closed on December 22, but the legal executive concerned, under heavy pressure of work, simply overlooked it. His office closed on December 23 re-opening on January 3, when the communication was received from the court and the writ was issued on January 4.

It appeared that in the other two cases neither counsel nor solicitors initially recognized the seriousness of the matter. In both cases the interim injunctions were granted by Mr Justice Mervyn Davies at about 5 pm, and shortly after 6pm on December 22. Those writs ought to have been issued on December 28, 29, or 30 when the writ office was open again, or in any event on or shortly after January 3.

They were not issued in fact until January 9 and 10 respectively, the communications from the court having been received on January 9 in each case.

In one of those cases, counsel and solicitors shared the blame. In the other, the solicitors apparently thought that the undertaking would be complied with provided that the required work was completed reasonably quickly and in any event by the return day on January 12.

However, all counsel and solicitors responsible had since recognized the seriousness of the matter and had expresssed their apologies to the court.

Order 29 rule 1(3) of the Rules of the Supreme Court provided that a plaintiff might not make an application for the grant of an injunction "before the issue of the writ or originating summons by which the cause or matter is to be begun except where the case is one of urgency, and in that case the injunction applied for may be granted on terms providing for the issue of the writ or summons and such other terms, if any, as the court thinks fit."

As was pointed out by Mr Justice Stamp in *In re N (Infants)* ([1967] Ch 512, 527, 528) that provision gave effect to two alternative practices which dated from the last quarter of the nineteenth century or thereabouts.

The first and stricter practice was to grant an injunction in urgent cases where on account of the office being closed the writ was not issued, being retained by the judge or registrar and passed to the central office at the earliest opportunity with instructions to treat it as if issued at the time it passed into official custody.

The second and more lenient practice was to require an undertaking to issue the writ immediately it was possible to do so, without the writ coming into the custody of the judge or registrar, in which case it appeared to have been the practice to date the writ with the date on which it was actually issued and to add a note that it was to be treated as if issued as at the date of the undertaking.

The current practice in the Chancery Division was in general in accordance with the foregoing observations of Mr Justice Stamp although it should be emphasized that the writ would be dated with the date on which it was actually issued and without the addition of any note that it was to be treated as if issued as the date of the undertaking.

Further it was now well established that there was no difficulty in passing and entering an order headed "In the matter of an intended action between A and B". Often there was before the court an engrossed writ ready for issue, or at least the draft of an indorsement on the writ. Thus in *Whittaker v Jolley* the undertaking was to issue a writ "in the form of the said draft writ of summons".

In other cases, however, it was the practice to make the order without the judge having a sight of any document and to tailor the undertaking accordingly. Thus in *Refson & Co Ltd v Saggers* the undertaking was to issue a writ "claiming relief similar to or connected with that hereinafter granted". Again in *Exclusivity Horlogere Ltd v Peoples Jewellers Ltd* the undertaking was to issue a writ "claiming relief similar to that as explained by counsel".

In view of some arguments by counsel, in particular to the effect that the defendant had not been prejudiced by the failure to issue the writ expeditiously or that negotiations for a settlement were taking place, his Lordship stated plainly what lay in the seriousness of the omission.

It was simply that in the generality of cases the court had no jurisdiction to grant an injunction or any other form of relief before the issue of an originating process. The mere statement of a principle so obvious and fundamental sufficiently demonstrated that it was incapable of elaboration.

If the court agreed to make an exception under Order 29, rule 1(3) in return for an undertaking forthwith to cure what would otherwise be a defect in its jurisdiction it was manifestly a serious matter if it was let down by default on the undertaking.

Although the intended defendant could complain in due course the default was in the first instance something which rested between the intended plaintiff and the court.

There was also the important matter of the fee payable on the sealing of the writ currently £55 which ought to be paid as soon as practicable.

In none of those three cases had the defendant complained of the breach of the undertaking. Both *Refson & Co Ltd v Saggers* and *Whittaker v Jolley* were settled before argument on the merits. In *Exclusivity Horlogere Ltd v Peoples Jewellers Ltd* where relief was originally granted and had since been continued in Mareva form, the two individual defendants appeared to have left the jurisdiction, having very likely on the evidence misappropriated the plaintiff's property.

None of the breaches, although serious in themselves, was deserving of the imposition on the plaintiff of any penalty for contempt of court, since it was clear in each case that the plaintiff personally was blameless for what had happened.

With regard to the solicitors, a failure to issue a writ on behalf of an intended plaintiff could in certain circumstances amount to an aiding or abetting of the contempt.

Alternatively it might be appropriate to take action under the court's punitive or compensatory jurisdiction over solicitors for example by making a report to the Law Society: see *R. & T. Thew Ltd v Reeves (No 2)* ([1982] QB 1283).

It was to be emphasized that even though the undertaking was that of the intended plaintiff and not of his solicitor, a failure by a solicitor to implement an undertaking to the court which he knew that his client had given and was expressly or impliedly relying on him to implement was *prima facie* a grave breach of the solicitor's duty to the court even where it occurred as in those three cases through forgetfulness or dilatoriness or a mistaken if misguided understanding of what was expected of him.

Although his Lordship had decided to take no action in any of the three cases he gave due warning that a similarly lenient approach might not be appropriate in the future.

It was the duty of the court where necessary to act of its own motion either in regard to an apparent contempt or under its jurisdiction over solicitors subject always to due observance of the necessary procedural requirements.

With regard to costs it was well within the power of the court to disallow the plaintiff costs which would normally be awarded to him or to order him to pay costs which would normally be borne by the defendant.

In *Refson & Co Ltd v Saggers* and *Whittaker v Jolley* the terms of the settlement of each case included provision for the whole or some part of the plaintiff's costs but in both cases the defendants were willing to leave the terms as they stood, and accordingly such costs were removed from his Lordship's decision.

In *Exclusivity Horlogere Ltd v Peoples Jewellers Ltd*, while the defendants had no merit, his Lordship to mark the court's disapproval of the breach, disallowed the costs of the *ex parte* application and made no order in respect of them.

The court had power, if the circumstances required it, to order a solicitor to pay costs personally subject to due observance of the necessary procedural requirements.

His Lordship had considered whether there should be a change in current practice and had discussed the matter with the Vice-Chancellor who had authorized him to say that he agreed that, subject to the following observations, there should be no change in the current practice in this division:

1 Wherever possible there should be put before the court the draft of an endorsement on the writ and preferably an engrossed writ ready for issue. In cases where relief was sought over the telephone the material part or parts of the draft endorsement should normally be read to the judge. Only in cases of very exceptional urgency should the court be asked to act without a sight or hearing of the material part or parts of the draft endorsement.

2 Athough there was no difference in meaning or effect between an obligation to issue a writ "forthwith" or "as soon as practicable" or "as soon as reasonably practicable" the first of those formulae was to be preferred and should normally be adopted. Further, the writ should normally be expressed to be "in the form of the said draft writ or summons" or to claim "relief substantially similar to that hereinafter granted" as the case might require.

3 As was the case with any other undertaking relating to the conduct of proceedings, it was the duty of a solicitor acting for an intended plaintiff on whose behalf an undertaking was given to the court to issue a writ to see that it was properly and expeditiously implemented; and counsel who was instructed to give such an undertaking might sometimes regard it as his duty to remind the solicitor of his.

Solicitors: Beachcroft; Peters & Peters; Barradales, Leicester.

Consent required for late amendment

Chuan Chow Maritime SA Panama v K/S A/S Bulk Sea Transport and Another

Before Mr Justice Neill

[Judgment delivered February 23]

The High Court had no power, except with the consent of the parties, to allow an amendment to pleadings which would introduce into the proceedings a cause of action which had arisen after the date of the issue of the writ.

Mr Justice Neill so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division, giving judgment in open court upon six summonses heard together in chambers whereby the plaintiffs had sought summary judgment against the defendants and leave to amend their pleadings in respect of further failures to pay instalments due under two charter-parties and a subsequent agreement which had occurred after the issue of the writs in respect of previous failures.

Mr Charles Haddon-Cave for the plaintiffs; Mr Victor Lyon for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE NEILL said that in *Zea Star Shipping Company SA v Parley Augustsson (Invest) A/S* (unreported, December 12, 1983), Mr Justice Sheen had allowed plaintiffs to amend their statement of claim so as to add a claim for further instalments of hire which had fallen due since the issue of the writ in an action for instalments due under a hire contract.

However, his Lordship did not feel able to follow that peruasive decision. In *Eshelby v Federated European Bank* ([1932] 1 KB 254), the Divisional Court had held that a writ could not be amended to bring in a cause of action which was non-existent when the writ was issued unless the parties consented, and Lord Justice Scrutton had said in the Court of Appeal in that case, albeit *obiter*, that it was contrary to the universal practice to allow a claim to be added for an instalment which had fallen due since the issue of the writ.

The judgment of Mr Justice Swift in the Divisional Court in *Eshelby's* case was referred to at length by the Court of Appeal in *Roban Jig and Tool Co v Taylor* ([1979] FSR 130), and no indication had there been given of any disapproval of his statement of the practice.

Thus while there was no binding precedent in the Court of Appeal on the point, his Lordship considered that as a judge of first instance he should follow what appeared to be the long-standing practice and would therefore hold that he had no jurisdiction to allow the amendments.

Solicitors: Holman Fenwick & Willan; Watson Farley & Williams.

Volunteer cannot claim damages

Sherrard v British Gates (and Timber) Ltd

There was no provision in English law to compensate a person who sustained injury when he lent a helping hand unless it could be shown that there was a fault on the part of the other party, Mr Justice Kilner Brown held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 17 giving a reserved judgment for the defendants against the plaintiff who sustained injuries in an accident while helping to load and move logs with his tractor.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the plaintiff was actually and legally a neighbour and some duty of care was therefore owed to him by the defendant company unless in the circumstances that duty was abrogated. He was legally a volunteer.

The duty was to ensure that there was a safe system of working and that the plaintiff was not exposed to risk of injury. Since he was an expert tractor driver, there was no breach of duty by the defendant company, because there was not a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury.

European Law

Restricting parallel imports of cameras

Hasselblad (GB) Ltd V Commission, supported by Camera Care Ltd

Case 86/82

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges K. Bahlmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, A. O'Keeffe, G. Bosco and U. Everling

Advocate General: Sir Gordon Slynn

[Judgment delivered: February 21]

By a decision of December 2, 1981 the Commission found that (i) a concerted practice between a Swedish company called VHAB, which manufactured high quality photographic equipment, and six of its sole distributors, among them an English company called HGB, which distributed Hasselblad equipment in the United Kingdom, to prevent, limit or discourage exports of Hasselblad equipment between the member states; (ii) the sole distributorship agreements made between VHAB and the sole distributors, and (iii) the selective distribution system applied by HGB since 1974, constituted infringements of article 85 (1) of the EEC Treaty.

HGB was fined £93,642 and brought an action for the annulment of the decision. In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

Although article 190 of the Treaty required the Commission to mention the factual circumstances justifying the decision and the consideration which led to its adoption, it did not require the Commission to discuss all the issues of fact and law which were raised during the administrative procedure.

HGB contended that article 85(1) was inapplicable because its market share was negligible and therefore its conduct could not appreciably effect trade between member states. That could not be accepted.

VHAB stated that it was the world leader in the sector of medium format reflex cameras.

HGB itself considered that the reputation of Hasselblad cameras was greater than that of any other camera in the world and they were much sought after by professionals and highly-qualified amateurs. Even if the number of cameras manufactured each year was not very great, the turnover of VHAB and HGB was considerable.

It was impossible to take the view that the restriction of trade in those cameras between member states had no appreciable effect on intra-Community trade.

HGB engaged in a concerted practice contrary to article 85 aimed at restricting parallel imports into the United Kingdom between May 1978 and December 1979. It sought to stop supplies of Hasselblad equipment to a company called Camera Care and to that end approached VHAB and the distributors of Hasselblad in Ireland, France and Belgium.

The Commission was unable to show that cameras which were the subject of parallel imports had to wait longer for repairs with HGB than did the same cameras in other member states. It was only able to show that the applicant reserved special advantages for its own customers (a 24-hour repair service and two-year guarantee).

In the circumstances, such conduct could not be regarded as restricting the supply of parallel imports where they were fully covered by the manufacturer's normal guarantee which the distributor was under an obligation to provide. The existence of concerted practice aimed at restricting parallel imports intended for Camera Care was sufficient to exclude block exemption under regulation No 67/67.

HGB's dealer agreement prohibited the sale of Hasselblad cameras to other dealers, including authorized dealers in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. A prohibition on sales between authorized dealers constitutes a restriction of their economic freedom and consequently a restriction of competition. The fact that HGB never impeded exports by its dealers was not sufficient to preclude the existence of a clear prohibition of exports.

HGB scrutinized the wording of advertisements made by its dealers as to selling prices and drafted the dealer agreement in such a way as to permit it to prohibit such advertisements.

HGB restricted the number of authorized dealers because a dealer was required to keep a given number of cameras in stock and, if many dealers were authorized, the sales prospects of some would not justify the maintenance of the required stock.

The Commission was justified in concluding that HGB's selection of dealers was based not only on quantitative but also on qualitative criteria. The dealer agreement allowed HGB to restrict the freedom of dealers to establish their business in a location in which it considered their presence capable of influencing competition between dealers.

The Commission was therefore right in finding that the dealer agreement infringed article 85(1). It was wrong to find that, so far as concerned clause 6 of the agreement, article 85(1) had been infringed in the period before January 1, 1979 because clause 6 had been introduced only from that date.

At the time of the concerted practices HGB was no longer a party to the agreement which VHAB had notified to the Commission but was bound by another agreement. It could not therefore rely on the notification of the former in order to escape the fine.

The aim of the concerted practice was to prevent imports into the United Kingdom of Hasselblad cameras intended for Camera Care and as such constituted a flagrant breach of the competition rules.

The commission fixed the fine on the basis of various matters which it failed to prove in the proceedings before the court.

Accordingly the infringements found by the Commission had been established only in part. A further consideration was that HGB was not a large undertaking. The fine imposed should therefore be reduced.

For those reasons, the court declared the Commission's decision void in so far as it found that clause 6 of the dealer agreement infringed article 85(1) before January 1, 1979, reduced the fine to £45,218 and dismissed the rest of the application.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

"... And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."—2 Corinthians 12 9.

BIRTHS

BALFOUR. – On February 23rd at Easton General Hospital, Edinburgh, to Jenny and David – a son (Malcolm Andrew), a brother for Victoria.

BROWN. – On 17th February 1984 to Sian (nee Gardner) and Iain – a daughter (Asha), a sister for Annik.

BUCHANAN-JARDINE. – On February 23rd at Cresswell Maternity Hospital, Dumfries, to Johnny and Pandora – a daughter.

CASTRIOTIS. – On February 20th, to Dimitri and Jacqueline, a beautiful daughter

CHEDBURN. – On 17th February 1984, at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, to Linda (nee Stewart) and Andrew – a son (Iain Thomas Stewart).

COLLINS on February 19th to Jenny (nee Bradley) and Steve, a daughter, Kate

COTTAM – On February 23rd at St Helier's Hospital, Carshalton to Jennifer (nee Turvey) and Iain – a daughter Laura Beth.

DEVLIN. – On February 4th in Kendal to Harriet and Hugh – a son (Thomas Hakrol.

ELLIOTT – On 24th February 1984 to Charlotte (nee Davidson) and Giles at the Matilda and War Memorial Hospital, Hong Kong, a daughter Orlanda Clare McGregor, sister for Alexandra and Laura

HOUSDEN. – On February 22nd at St Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Elizabeth (nee Mont) and Michael – a son (Oliver).

LUBBOCK – On 14th February to Margaret, wife of John Lubbock a daughter

MARRACHE. – On January 4th at St Bernard's Hospital, Gibraltar to Marion (nee Fischel) and Raphael – a daughter

MARR – At Aberdeen Royal Infirmary on Thursday 23rd February 1984 to Anne and Daryl, a son Philip.

MARVIN – On February 23rd to Joanne (nee Clapham) and Trevor, a daughter, Elizabeth Louise.

MILNER. – On February 21st to Wendy (nee Singleton) and Robert – a son

SMITH. – On February 22nd at St Thomas' Hospital, London, to Mary-Anne and Simon – a son (Henry Thomas Bamford).

STANDFAST. – On February 19th, at Chester, to Megan and David, a daughter (Alexandra), sister for Jenny.

WELLESLEY-WESLEY on 22nd February in the Lindo Wing, St. Marys, Paddington to Karen & Michael – a son

BIRTHDAYS

JON MASTERS IS 21 today, best wishes for the future from Dave and Mike.

DEATHS

BRAKSPEAR. – On Feb 23rd peacefully in hospital, Marjorie Protheroe, aged 76, widow to Bill Brakspear of Henley-on-Thames, much loved mother and grandmother. Private cremation at her request. Donations, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research, PO Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields London WC2

BRETON. – On February 22nd 1984 in Macclesfield after a long illness, Mrs Margaret Mary (Margot) Breton, widow of Eric Norman (John) Breton of Prestbury and Henbury. Funeral Monday February 27th 1984. Service and interment at the Parish Church of St Thomas, Henbury, Macclesfield, Cheshire at 1.30 pm. Enquiries to Hooley & Watson, 7 James St, Macclesfield, Cheshire Tel. Macclesfield 22734

BRINSON. – On February 18th, 1984, peacefully after a short illness at Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, Prudence Elizabeth (nee Wheeler), widow of Derek Brinson, formerly of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service. Funeral service at Salisbury crematorium on Wednesday, 29th February at 2.30 pm. Floral tributes to Will Case & Partners, 22 Churchfields Road, Salisbury, by 12 noon

CHURCHMAN. – On February 24th, sister Cecilia Mary, of the Ursuline Convent, Wimbledon, formerly headmistress of the Preparatory School, fortified with Rites of Holy Church. Requiem in Convent Chapel, Wednesday, 29th February, at 2 p.m followed by interment. R.I.P.

DALGLIESH – at Basingstoke District Hospital on 22nd February 1984, after a short illness, Diana Dalgliesh, MBE, greatly loved sister, aunt, sister in law, great aunt, godmother and friend to her family, colleagues and friends. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Kingsclere on Wednesday, 29th February at 12.00 noon, followed by a private cremation. A service of thanksgiving will be held on Friday, 16th March at St Mary's Church, Kingsclere at 2.30 pm.

HARRISON. – On February 23rd 1984, peacefully at Littlehampton, aged 91 years, Mabel Harrison, beloved mother of Richard and Eric, and a dearly loved grandmother and great grandmother. Cut flowers and all enquiries please to F. A. Holland and Son, Terminus Rd, Littlehampton, Sussex Tel. Littlehampton 3939.

HORROCKS. – Suddenly on 21st February, William Arnold of 6 Hillside Rd, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham, beloved husband of June, and father of Helen, and Harvey, sadly missed by all the family. Service, Radcliffe Church, Tuesday 28th February, at 2.30pm followed by cremation. Flowers, or donations for Cancer Research may be sent to Radcliffe and District. Funeral service, 69 Main Rd, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham

HUME – On Thursday, February 23rd, peacefully in her sleep at her home in Scotland, Rosemary Hume, M.B.E. Beloved and much mourned by her family, many friends and colleagues. Funeral strictly private. Memorial service in London to be arranged later.

LOWTHER. – On 23rd February 1984 the Hon Timothy L. E. at Ivystone House, St Clements, Jersey. Husband of Sue, and father of Melinda. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, 6 Sydney Street, London SW3.

PHILLIPS. – On February 23rd, at The White House, Eastergate, Michael Henry Clarmont, aged 64. Much loved husband of Cyrene, father of Henry and James. Funeral at Chichester Crematorium on Wednesday, 29th of February, at 11.00 a.m. Family flowers only.

PYE-SMITH. On February 24th at Somerleyton, Stratford Road, (Sheffield) Brian Charles Pye-Smith O.B.E. aged 80 yrs. Beloved husband of Mardie and dear father of Anne. Service at St. John's Church, Ranmoor (Sheffield), Thursday March 1st at 11.30am. Followed by interment at Crookes Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations for Hillsborough Boy's Club may be sent to John Heath & Sons (Funeral Directors Sheffield)

SURSHAM on February 23rd Ernest Albert J.P., peacefully at home in his 102nd year, much loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. Funeral service at Garston Crematorium, Watford on Monday February 27th at 11.15 a.m.

FUNERALS

TOOKEY, DAVID – Funeral 2pm March 1st 1984, at St John's, Eden Park, Beckenham, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Riflemen's Aid Society, c/o Peninsula Barracks, Winchester.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HIGGON – A service in remembrance of Lt Col. J. H. V. Higgon of Scolton, Haverfordwest, (Senior British Officer at Oflag 7/Eichstadt during World War II) – will be held at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London on Monday 27th February, at 12 noon

IN MEMORIAM

DUNCAN, Andrew. Born Renton, Dumbartonshire. Husband of the late Irene, dear brother, father and grandfather. Lovingly remembered on his birthday 25th Jan.

ELFAN REES died Geneva 23rd February 1978 – remembered by many.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE SISTERS OF ST LOUIS, Gt Yarmouth, thank all the staff of the Westminster Hospital and Dr Maurice O'Donnell of Gt Yarmouth, for their wonderful care of our Sister Eithne during her long illness

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HEREFORD FINE CHINA "Little Owl" issued in Limited Edition of 100. Must be perfect condition. Write stating price to Mrs G Jennings, 118 Whitelaw Place, Whangarei, New Zealand.

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February 21 1984

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s 27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

THOMAS, Michael Edward of 17 Ardle Hill, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire died on April 19, 1983 (Estate about £10,666). The kin of the above named are requested to apply to Messrs Kennedy Thompson & Davies, 27 Riddings Road, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, failing which they may take steps to administer the estate.

LEWIS, Henry of Flat 18, William Blake House, 1-6 Dufours Place, Broadwick Place, London W1, died on October 4, 1983. Particulars to Harold Nickinson, Solicitors of 48 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DS before April 26, 1984.

SMITH, MAUD IRENE, of 42 Somerset Road, Edmonton, London, N18, a widow, died on the 11th day of December, 1983. Particulars to Mitchell Conforti & Colley, 22, High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 7PU before April 30, 1984.

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PORTO ERCOLE, TUSCANY. Lux villa set in ten acre garden, overlooking sea, slps 11, swimming pool, 2 living in staff avail. May, June, July, Sept. 01-886-4490.

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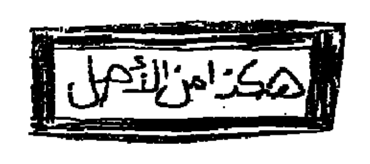
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THE TIMES

THE TIMES PUTS 20p IT ALL INTO FOCUS



Saturday

Television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Dear

Sunday

SATURDAY

BBC 1

6.20 **Open University.** Until 8.25.
8.35 **Godzilla.** (r). **9.00 Saturday Superstore** presented by Mike Read, Keith Chegwin and Sarah Greene. Today's guests include Kajagoogoo, David Grant, Roger Daltrey and Martin Daniels. **12.12 Weather.**
12.15 **Grandstand** introduced by David Coleman. The line-up is: 12.20 Football focus; 12.45 News headlines; 12.50 Highlights from the third and final one-day cricket match between New Zealand and England in Auckland; 1.20 and 2.10 Boxing from this week's bill at the Albert Hall
1.40 Racing review. Kieran Prendiville examines the Irish racing scene prior to coverage of three races from *Punchestown*, – The Jack Peter and Paul Doyle Hurdle (2.00); the Diners Club Steeplechase (2.30) and the Ladbroke National Trial Handicap Steeplechase (3.00); 2.40 and 3.10 Swimming competition between Great Britain and West Germany; 3.30 and 3.55 Highlights of one of this afternoon's State Express Rugby League Challenge Cup matches: 3.50 Half times 4.40 Final score.
5.05 **News with Jan Leeming.** 5.15 Sport and regional news.
5.20 **The Rod and Emu Show.** Music and laughter from Rhyl Sun Centre.
5.55 **Jim'll Fix It.** Jimmy Savile makes dreams come true for another batch of lucky young people.
6.30 **Film: The Great Waldo Pepper** (1975) starring Robert Redford in the title role, a 1920s flying circus stunt pilot whose ambition is to outdo the legendary exploits of the German flying ace, Ernst Kessler. Produced and directed by George Roy Hill.
8.15 **The Les Dawson Show.** The final programme of the series features Bertice Reading and the Roly Polys.
8.45 **News with Jan Leeming;** and sports results.
9.00 **The Odd Job Man.** The third and final episode of the thriller about George Griffin, an elimination expert working for British Intelligence and the CIA. Tonight he manages to find a cottage hide-out for the East German, Tauber
9.50 **Wogan.** The guests tonight include Dallas actress, Victoria Principal and John Mortimer.
10.40 **Match of the Day** introduced by Jimmy Hill. Highlights from two of this afternoon's first division matches.
11.30 **The Late Night Horror: The Ghoul** (1975) starring Peter Cushing and John Hurt. Two high-spirited couples have a car race to Lands End but before they reach their destination fog brings them to a halt and into the welcoming arms of the owner of a lonely, dark, mansion. Directed by Freddie Francis.
12.55 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Henry Kelly and Toni Arthur. News and weather at 7.00 and 8.00; sport at 7.10; Jeni Barnett's pick of the week at 6.30; George Best at 7.15 and cooking hints from Rustie Lee at 8.15
8.40 **Data Run** includes news of the 1984 Toy Fair; viewers' poems; pop group Slade; and space cartoons.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **LWT Information. 9.30 Sesame Street.** Learning made fun by the Muppets **10.30 The Saturday Show.** The 50th programme and the special guest is Jeremy Beadle, famous for the odd anniversaries he imparts on TV-am. Winners of the Knight Rider competition talk about their prize-winning trip to Hollywood.
12.15 **World of Sport** introduced by Dickie Davies. The line-up is: 12.20 The US Indoor athletic championships; 12.35 The National Breakdown Rally, held in north Yorkshire; 12.45 News 12.50 On the Ball with Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves; 1.20 The ITV Six: from Doncaster the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 races, from Kempton the 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45 events
2.55 Darts. The Greene King World Challenge between England and the Rest of the World at Cheltenham; 3.40 a preview of tonight's fight to be shown live on ITV at 10.15 between Britain's Tony Sibson and the French European middleweight champion, Louis Acaries; 3.45 half-time scores and reports 4.00 Wrestling from Winsford 4.45 Results service.
5.00 **News 5.05 Fraggle Rock.**
5.35 **The Fall Guy.** Adventures of a stunt man turned bounty hunter.
6.30 **Child's Play.** Young children's descriptions are interpreted by adults.
7.00 **3-2-1** Quiz game presented by Ted Rogers, this week with a country theme.
8.00 **Film: Silver Streak** (1976) starring Gene Wilder and Richard Pryor. Comedy set on board a train travelling to Chicago concerning a murdered professor and a book publisher. Worth watching for the spectacular ending. Directed by Arthur Hiller.
10.00 **News and sport.**
10.15 **Boxing.** Live coverage of the fight in Paris between Britain's Tony Sibson and the holder of the European middleweight title, Frenchman, Louis Acaries.
11.15 **London news headlines** followed by **Rock Concert** featuring the Afro-rock band, Osibisa.
12.15 **Best of Saturday Night Live** with Richard Pryor, the Muppets and Gil Scott-Heron.
1.15 **Night Thoughts** from Michael Meacher, MP.

Leonard Bernstein conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in a new interpretation of Elgar's Enigma Variations (BBC 2; 7.45pm)

BBC 2

6.25 **Open University:** until 3.10
3.10 **Film: The Iron Mask*** (1929) starring Douglas Fairbanks Senior. Swashbuckling adventures of the Three Musketeers. Directed by Allan Dwan.
4.30 **Film: Sinbad the Sailor** (1947) starring Douglas Fairbanks Junior. Like father, like son, Junior arms himself with a sword as he goes on the trail of treasure. Directed by Richard Wallace.
6.25 **Modern Art: Pissaro:** An Open University production in which T. J. Clarke discusses the attempts by Pissarro to marry his left-wing political beliefs with his art.
6.50 **Sight and Sound in Concert.** David Hepworth introduces a concert given by Aswad.
7.30 **News from Jan Leeming** plus sports details and weather.
7.45 **Elgar's Enigma.** In memory of the composer's death fifty years ago this month, the programme follows the BBC Symphony Orchestra, leader Rodney Friend, conductor Leonard Bernstein as they rehearse for and perform Bernstein's personal interpretation of the Enigma Variations.
9.50 **Strangers and Brothers.** Episode seven and a new woman enters the life of Lewis Eliot, Margaret Davidson (r).
10.40 **The Light of Experience Revisited.** Five people who appeared in the series The Light of Experience, five years ago, talk to Bel Mooney about what they have learned in the intervening years. Tonight's subject is ex-convict turned Anglican minister, Roy Catchpole, now a vicar in a working class parish in Nottingham.
11.00 **John D Loudermilk and his Music.** Highlights of the singer's concert recorded at the Kenton Theatre, Henley, with guests The Fureys and Davey Arthur.
11.30 **News.**
11.35 **Cricket:** highlights of the third and final one-day game between New Zealand and England in Auckland. Ends at 12.20.

CHANNEL 4

1.55 **Make It Pay** How to make money from a hobby (r).
2.20 **Film: Rage in Heaven*** (1941) starring Robert Montgomery, Ingrid Bergman and George Sanders. Drama about a wealthy industrialist who hatches a plan to frame his friend for murder. Directed by W S Van Dyke II.
4.00 **Film: Return to Glennascaul*** (1951) starring Orson Wells. A ghost story, set in Ireland, about a traveller who gives a lift to a young man who recalls how he once gave a lift to two unusual women. Directed by Hilton Edwards.
4.20 **Joie de Vivre*** An animated film made in 1934 by Anthony Gross.
4.30 **Mama Malone.** American comedy series starring British actress Lila Kaye.
5.05 **Brookside.** A compilation of the week's two episodes.
6.00 **No Problem.** Comedy series about a black London family.
6.30 **The Other Side of the Tracks.** Paul Gambaccini talks to Chrissie Hyde about how she and Martin Chambers re-formed the group The Pretenders.
7.30 **News headlines and weather** followed by **Union World.**
8.00 **Twenty Twenty Vision: Escape From the USSR.** The story of Russian couple Oleg and Irina Chilkov who escaped from Leningrad to a social security existence in this country.
8.30 **Sir William in Search of Xanadu.** The story of Glasgow shipping magnate and art collector Sir William Burrell.
9.30 **The Avengers.** Steed and Tara rescue Tara's uncle from a holiday hotel
10.30 **Tennis: Davis Cup.** Highlights of the doubles in the match between Great Britain and Italy.
11.45 **Film: The Mask of Dimitrios*** (1944) starring Sydney Greenstreet. Thriller based on Eric Ambler story about a Dutch author who becomes intrigued by the murder of a criminal in Istanbul. Directed by Jean Negulesco.
1.30 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 News: Farming Today.
6.50 In Perspective with Rosemary Hartill, 6.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
7.00 News.
7.10 Today's Papers.
7.15 On Your Farm.
7.45 In Perspective.
7.50 It's A Bargain with Norman Tozer. 7.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
8.00 News.
8.10 Today's Papers.
8.15 Sport On 4.
8.48 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Breakaway. Bernard Falk with holiday, travel and leisure.
9.50 News Stand. Review of weekly magazines.
10.05 The Week in Westminster.
10.30 Daily Service†
10.45 Pick of the Week. TV and radio extracts†
11.35 From Our Own Correspondent. BBC correspondents report from around the world.
12.00 News; Money Box.
12.27 The News Quiz. *News of the last seven days examined by the people who wrote it*†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 News.
1.10 Any Questions? from Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News.
2.05 Thirty-Minute Theatre 'Mary' by Frances Gray†
2.35 Medicine Now. A report on the health of medical care.
3.05 Wildlife.
3.30 Home-ing In. Tips and techniques to help you save time and money if you do-it-yourself.
4.00 News; International Assignment.
4.30 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for the disabled.
5.00 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman looking at new technology and its impact.
5.25 Week Ending. Satirical review of the week's news†
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
6.00 News; Sports Round-Up.
6.25 Desert Island Discs. Actor, Michael York†
7.05 Stop the Week with Robert Robinson†
7.45 Dyslexia need not be a disaster – A look at the childhood of Sue Loftus-Brigham.
8.30 Saturday-Night Theatre 'The Tiger in the Smoke' by Margery Allingham†
9.58 Weather.
10.00 News.
10.15 You The Jury. Controversial issues are put on trial.
11.00 Lighten our Darkness. Paul Martin reflects on being a Christian in South India today.
11.15 Animal Language. A 13-part series on sound communication in animals, narrated by David Attenborough (9) Trespassers Will be Sung at†
11.45 A Sideways Look At . . . by Anthony Smith.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.
12.23 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.
ENGLAND VHF with 1f above except 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00pm Programme News. 5.50-5.55 Programme News.

Radio 3

7.55 Weather. 8.00 News.
8.05 Aubade: Works by Lekeu, Weinberger, Brahms (Capriccio in D minor). On record† 9.00 News.
9.05 Record Review: Presented by Paul Vaughan. Bryce Morrison examines recordings of Chopin's Fantaisie in F minor†
10.15 Stereo Release. Includes records of music by John Baston, Bach, Rimsky-Korsakov and Jacob†
11.25 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra concert. Part one. Sir Charles Groves conducts performances of Vaughan Williams's Wasps and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 3 with Youri Egorov (piano)† 12.10 Interval reading.
12.15 Concert: part two. Dvorak's Symph No 4† 1.00 News.
1.05 Fauré. Piano music played by Jean-Philippe Collard, including several Barcarolles†
2.00 Dreamers of Dreams. Delius, Elgar and Holst all died in 1934 within the space of four months, and a new series of 16 weekly anniversary programmes begins with Elgars's The Apostles. Gennadi Rozhdestvensky conducts BBC Symphony Orch, Chorus and Singers. Elgar conducts his own Elegy for Strings†
4.00 Schubert. String Quintet in C maj, with Amadeus String Quartet†
5.00 Jazz Record Requests with Peter Clayton†
5.45 Critics' Forum. Anthony Curtis leads A S Byatt. Edward Lucie-Smith and Clancy Sigal in discussions on arts, including BBC2 Strangers and Brothers serial and new galleries at the National Portrait Gallery.
6.35 Nicholas Danby. First of three programmes of early romantic organ music from the Kloster Neresheim monastery†
7.15 British Socialism Redefined? In centenary year of the Fabian Society, David Watt looks at Socialism in Britain. Contributions from Neil Kinnock, Tony Benn, Len Murray and Shirley Williams.
8.00 Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields. Concert. Part one. Opus 6 Concerto Grosso by Handel and by Corelli†
8.40 A Slate Rubbed Clean. Tribute to World War 1 poet Charles Hamilton Sorley, read by Martin Jarvis.
9.00 Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields Concert. Part two. Vivaldi's concertos for two, three and four violins†
9.40 Late Night Schoenberg. Dutch Schoenberg Ensemble, recorded at 1983 Edinburgh Festival, play Pierrot Lunaire† 10.15 Interval Reading.
10.25 Schoenberg. Part two. Including Brettl-Lieder and Die eiserne Brigade†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF: Open University 6.55-7.15am, 6.55 Science Study Hints, 7.15 Maths Foundation Tutorial, 7.35 Social Sciences Magazine. 11.20pm-12.00am, 11.20 Why We Should Reason Well, 11.40 19th Century Novel.

Radio 2

News on the hour until 1.00 pm and then from 6.00 (except 8.00 pm and 9.00); Headlines: 5.30 am, 7.30; major bulletins: 7.00am, 8.00 and 12.00 midnight.

4.00 Martin Stanford† incl 4.02; 5.02 Cricket. 6.00 Sheila Tracy† incl 6.03 Cricket 7.50 Racing Bulletin. 8.05 David Jacobs† 10.00 Sounds of the 60s† with Keith Fordyce. 11.00 Album Time† with Peter Clayton, incl 11.02 Sports Desk. 1.00pm Bernie Clifton's Comedy Shop with Pat Mooney, Tony Peers and Caroline Turner. 1.30 Sport on 2: Cricket: Reports from Auckland on England's final match in New Zealand. Swimming: The Sun Life International. Great Britain v West German at Crystal Palace. Tennis: Commentary on The Davis Cup at Telford between Britain and Italy. Racing from Kempton Park. 2.15 The Mercedes-Benz Handicap Chase. 2.45 The Tote Placepot Hurdle. Rugby League: The State Express Challenge Cup; reports from one of this afternoon's top ties. Rugby Union: Commentary on The John Player 4th Round. 5.00 Sports Report. 5.50 Racing results. 5.55 Pools news and results. 6.00 Folk on 2 with Jim Lloyd. 7.00 Jazz Score with chairman Benny Green. 7.30 The Magic of Offenbach King of the Operetta (s) Concert recorded at the Fairfield Hall, Croydon. 8.15-8.25* Interval. 9.30 Big Band Special† with the BBC Big Band, incl 10.02 Sports Desk. 10.05 Saturday Rendezvous† with Dhelia Tracy (continued on Medium Wave). 10.25 Boxing special: European Middleweight Title. Tony Sibson v Luis Acaries in the Palais de Sport, Paris. 11.30 Ken Bruce† With his selection of music. 1.00am Jean Challis† presents Nightride. 3.00-4.00 Pop over Europe† with Marina von Senger.

Radio 1

News on the half-hour until 12.30 pm, then 2.30, 3.30., 5.30, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MW).

6.00am Mark Page. 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Saturday Show. 10.00 Dave Lee Travis. 1.00pm Hitsville USA† The Story of Motown (Part 6) 2.00 Paul Gambaccini† 4.00 Saturday Live† with Richard Skinner and Andy Batten-Foster. 6.20 In Concert† featuring Juluka. 6.50 Sight and Sound in concert† featuring Aswad at the Marcus Garvey Centre, Nottingham (A simultaneous broadcast with BBC2). 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00 Gary Davies. VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am with Radio 1. 1.00pm with Radio 1. 7.30 with Radio 2. 10.25 Saturday Rendezvous. 11.00 Ken Bruce. 11.30-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 News About Britain. 7.15 From the Weeklies. 7.30 A Talent to Amuse. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Short Takes. 8.30 Pop The Question ! 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 People and Politics. 10.15 What's New. 10.30 Just A Minute. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 About Britain. 12pm Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Anything Goes. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Commentary. 1.15 Network UK. 1.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 2.00 Musical Memories of Evelyn Barbirolli. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Saturday Special 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Saturday Special. 5.00 News Summary. 5.02 Saturday Special. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Commentary. 8.15 Good Books. 9.15 What's New. 9.30 People and Politics. 10.00 World News. 10.09 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 New Ideas. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Letterbox. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Play of the Week. 1.30 Baker's Half Dozen. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Short Story. 2.30 Sports Review. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 From Our Own Correspondent. 3.30 Just A Minute. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 The Bach Family. 5.45 Letter from America.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m: Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC 1 WALES 5.15-5.20 Sports News Wales. 12.55am Weather. SCOTLAND 5.15-5.20 Scoreboard. 10.40-11.30 Sportscene: Football & Cross-country: Highlights from the Scottish National Championship. 1.00 Close. NORTHERN IRELAND 4.55-5.05 Northern Ireland Results. 5.15-5.20 Northern Ireland News. 12.55am News and weather. ENGLAND 5.15-5.20 London – Sport South West – Spotlight Sport all other English regions – Sport & Regional News. 1.00am Close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Week in Politics. 2.40 Basketball. 3.35 Film: Bitter Sweet. Bride elopes with her music teacher. 5.05 Yr Awr Fawr. 6.05 Incredible Hulk. 7.00 Ser. 7.30 Newyddion. 7.45 Siwrne Ddal 8.25 Treasure Hunt. 9.25 Maes Chwarae. 10.15 Arolwg. 10.45 Davis Cup Tennis. 11.45 Film: Spiral Staircase. 1.15am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: Starts 9.35am Vicky the Viking. 10.05-10.30 Stingray. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Snooker. 12.40am At the End of the Day. Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

GRANADA As London except: 10.20am-10.30 Cartoon. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Roots of Rock 'N' Roll, 12.10am Film: Terror From Within. 1.30 Closedown.

TSW As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.30 Freeze Frame. 5.05pm Newsport. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Roots of Rock 'N' Roll. 12.15am Postscript, Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Professor Kitzel. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Roots of Rock 'N' Roll. 12.15am Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25am Morning Glory. 9.30 Sport Billy. 9.55-10.30 Flying Kiwi. 10.25-10.30 TT Time. 5.05pm News. 5.07 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Roots of Rock and Roll. 12.15am Poet's corner, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: Starts 9.30am Noddy. 9.45 Smurfs. 10.10-10.30 Falcon Island. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Devlin Connexion. 12.15am Newhart. 12.40 Reflections, Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am Space 1999. 10.20-10.30 Cartoon. 4.55pm-5.00 Sports results. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Knight rider. 11.15 Star Parade. 12.10am News, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 9.25am Cartoon. 9.35 Happy Days. 10.00 Flying Kiwi. 10.25-10.30 Mouse on Mars. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider, 11.15 Late Call, 11.20 Saturday Night Music Show. 12.20am Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 9.25am Vicky the Viking. 9.50 Once Upon a Time. 10.15-10.30 Smurfs. 5.25pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Fugitive. 12.15am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 9.25am Melotoons. 9.35 Flying Kiwi. 10.00-10.30 University Challenge. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Snooker. 12.00 House Calls. 12.30am Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am Thunderbirds. 10.20-10.30 Gus Honeybun. 5.05pm Gus Honeybun. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Roots of Rock 'N' Roll. 12.15am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 10.25am 10.30 Cartoon. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Hill Street Blues, 12.15am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.15pm Cup Rugby. 12.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.55am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 9.25am Wattoo Wattoo. 9.30 Ivor Honeypot Competition Winner. 9.35 Smurfs. 10.00-10.30 Mork and Mindy. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.15 Jazz. 11.45 Comedy Tonight. 12.15 Company. Closedown.

SUNDAY

BBC 1

6.20 **Open University.** Until 8.50.
9.00 **Postman Pat.** For the very young (r). **9.15 Sunday Worship** from the chapel, St John's College, Nottingham. **10.00 Asian Magazine** highlights young Asian magician Guru Rangeela.
10.30 **Play it Safe!** presented by Jimmy Savile (r). **10.40 Maths Help.** Lesson 18: Geometry (r). **10.55 Greek – Language and People.** Part eight (r).
11.20 **Inside YTS.** Programme three of the series on the Youth Training Scheme in action. **11.45 Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery Course.** Recipe three: Lemony chicken (r).
12.10 **See Hear!** A magazine programme for the hard of hearing. **12.35 Making the Most of the Micro** (r). **1.00 Farming. 1.25 Taking Stock.** The joys of being 50 in the 1980s (r). **1.50 News**
1.55 **Film: The Bells of St Mary's*** (1945) starring Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman. Sentimental story of a school that has fallen on hard times and is searching for new accommodation with the help of Father O'Malley and Sister Superior. Directed by Leo McCarey. **3.55 Bonanza.** A severe winter hits the Ponderosa and surrounding ranches.
4.45 **One Night in November.** Terry Wogan looks back at the Children in Need Appeal and announces the amount of money that was raised on that November day. **5.15 Goodbye Mr Chips.** Part five and Chips faces the impending war.
5.45 **News with Jan Leeming.**
5.55 **Holiday.** John Carter samples the heat and the dust of southern India; there are reports from the ski slopes of the Sierra Nevada, the beaches of the Costa del Sol and the streets of Granada.
6.30 **Streetwise.** The second of eight programmes on self-defence.
6.40 **Songs of Praise** from Southwark Cathedral.
7.15 **One by One.** Episode five of the series based on the Zoo Vet books by David Taylor.
8.05 **Mastermind** from University College, Cardiff. The specialist subjects are – history of costume since 1400; epic novels of R F Delderfield; the life and works of Duke Ellington; and the life and works of John Keats.
8.35 **Ever Decreasing Circles.** The last on the comedy series.
9.05 **News with Jan Leeming.**
9.20 **That's Life** presented by Esther Rantzen.
10.05 **Everyman: Your Neighbour's Son – The Making of a Torturer.** The story of Michalis Petrou, one of the chief torturers of the Greek Colonels' regime.
10.45 **The World of Cooking.** Derek Cooper unravels the mysteries of Japanese cooking.
11.15 **Phil Silvers*** as Sergeant Bilko.
11.40 **Weather.**

TV-am

7.25 **Good Morning Britain**
7.30 **Rub-a-Dub-Tub.** Entertainment for the under-eights.
8.30 **Good Morning Britain** with news and weather at 8.30; sport at 8.35; a review of the Sunday papers at 8.40; and an inside story at 8.55.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **LWT Information. 9.30 Me and My Camera.** Lord Lichfield with hints on how to take group photographs (r). **10.00 Morning Worship** from Victoria Methodist Church, Clifton, Bristol. **11.00 Getting On.** Magazine programme for the elderly. This week the subject is bingo in Grimsby. **11.30 Crafts Made Simple.** Ken Foord with the first of a six-part series about drawing and painting.
12.00 **Weekend World** investigates the effects of acid rain. **1.00 Police 5. 1.15 the Big Match.** Brian Moore introduces highlights from two of yesterday's football first division matches. **2.00 Encounter** Why Neil and Jackie Biles gave up a comfortable living to become wardens of a Church Army hostel in central London.
2.30 **London news headlines** followed by **Film: The Mouse That Roared.** (1960) starring Peter Sellers and Jean Seberg. Comedy about an impoverished European country that declares war on the United States. Directed by Jack Arnold. **4.30 Jack Holborn.** Part six of the adventure based on the novel of Leon Garfield, set in the 19th century.
5.00 **Bullseye.** Jim Bowen with another edition of the darts and general knowledge game.
5.30 **Sunday Sunday.** Gloria Hunniford's guests include Frankie Howerd and Leonard Rossiter.
6.30 **News.**
6.40 **Highway.** Harry Secombe on a musical tour of Portsmouth.
7.15 **Family Fortunes.** The Prices of Branwell meet the Millers of Merseyside in a quiz presented by Max Bygraves.
7.45 **Film: Fear is the Key** (1972) starring Barry Newman and Suzy Kendall. Thriller based on the Alistair McLean story of a man out to revenge the death of his wife, son and brother. Directed by Michael Tuchner.
9.45 **News.**
10.00 **Spitting Image.** A new series of topical satire using caricatures made by the talented Luck and Flaw team.
10.30 **The South Bank Show.** Melvyn Bragg talks to the playwright Trevor Griffiths.
11.30 **London news headlines** followed by **The Protectors** starring Robert Vaughn and Nyree Dawn Porter. Harry Rule is on a train journey with a killer, little realising that he is the killer's intended victim.
12.30 **Night Thoughts** from Michael Meacher, MP.

Richard Briers, Penelope Wilton and Peter Egan star in the last programme of the comedy series Ever Decreasing Circles (BBC 1, 8.35pm)

BBC 2

6.25 **Open University** until 1.55.
1.55 **Ceefax.**
3.00 **Rugby Special.** Highlights of the match between Bristol and London Welsh.
3.50 **Newsnight's February.** Peter Snow introduces two films seen recently on Newsnight – The New Argentina and The Bergers.
4.40 **International Swimming from Crystal Palace.** Highlights of the Sun Life International between Great Britain and West Germany.
5.10 **Wales! Wales?** The first of a new series of six films in which Dai Smith gives a personal view of the history of the Welsh.
6.00 **News Review.** with Jan Leeming.
6.30 **The Money Programme.** Among the items this week is an examination of the pros and cons of laying down fine wines.
7.15 **International Pro-Celebrity Golf.** Tom Watson and Kenny Lynch challenge Greg Norman and Alex Higgins.
8.05 **One Pair of Eyes.** The story of Simon Treharne, a mentally handicapped but energetic young man who believes that people like himself should be given the opportunity to lead independent lives.
8.35 **All The World's a Stage.** Ronald Harwood examines the original, bawdy, entertainment that eventually grew into poetic drama.
9.30 **Did You See . . . ?** Everyman's Hours By the Window, Channel Four's Diverse Reports and All the World's A Stage are discussed by Iain Hamilton, Catherine Freeman and Terry Hands.
10.15 **News with Jan Leeming.**
10.20 **Film: My Brilliant Career** (1979) starring Judy Davis and Sam Neill. The first showing on British television of the Australian-made film about Sybylla Melvyn, a young girl brought up on a farm in the Australian bush. The film traces her steps to achieve her ambition of becoming a cultured woman with a brilliant career. Directed by Gillian Armstrong. Ends at 12.00.

CHANNEL 4

1.05 **The Making of Britain.** Dr Alfred Smyth evaluates the legacy of the Viking occupation of Britain.
1.30 **Irish Angle.** The week's news as seen by Radio Telefis Eireann and Ulster Television.
2.00 **Tennis: Davis Cup from Telford.** Coverage of the reverse singles matches in the contest between Great Britain and Italy.
4.15 **Jack's Game.** Jack Charlton on a day's rough shoot in the Durham countryside.
4.45 **The Motor Show** presented by Chris Goffey and Diane Goodman. Engine rebuilding and a guest driving a surprise vehicle are among the items.
5.15 **News headlines and weather** followed by **7 Days.** Michael Charlton and Helene Hayman with guests discuss the moral and religious values behind the past week's news stories.
5.45 **Face the Press.** Polly Toynbee of the Guardian and Peregrine Worsthorne of the Sunday Telegraph question the Bishop of Birmingham, the Rt Rev Hugh Montefiore.
6.15 **Tennis: Davis Cup from Telford.** Highlights of the first round match between Great Britain and Italy.
7.15 **The World at War.** Pincers: August 1944-March 1945. Wonderful archive film covering the eight month period in which the German Army was tottering to defeat but strong enough to crush a Polish assault and to inflict crushing casualties on the Allied forces at Arnhem.
8.15 **The Jewel in the Crown.** Episode eight and with the death of Mabel, Barbie is humiliated and forced to leave Rose Cottage (r).
9.15 **The First Christian.** Karen Armstrong, a former nun, explores the life and teachings of St Paul.
10.15 **Film: The Mystery of Mr X*** (1934) starring Robert Montgomery. Thriller set in Victorian London about a Raffles-type character suspected of being the maniac responsible for the murder of five policemen. Directed by Edgar Selwyn.
11.50 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 News; Morning Has Broken. 6.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
7.00 News; 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye. 7.45 Bells. 7.50 Turning Over New Leaves. 7.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers.
8.15 Sunday.
8.50 Week's Good Cause: Derek Nimmo appeals on behalf of the Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled. 8.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers.
9.15 Letter from America with Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Morning Service from Caterham School, Surrey.
10.15 The Archers. Omnibus edition.
11.15 Weekend.
12.00 Smash of the Day: I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again starring John Cleese, Tim Brooke-Taylor, David Hatch, Jo Kendall, Bill Oddie.
12.30 The Food Programme. 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World This Weekend: News. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time visits North Humberside.
2.30 Afternoon Theatre* Slipping Away by Elizabeth Troop.
4.00 News; Talking About Antiques.
4.30 The Living World: The Winged Blood-drop.
5.00 News; Travel.
5.05 Down Your Way visits Ramsgate, Kent. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 News.
6.15 Feedback with Simon Bates.
6.30 Scandinavian Journey. Julian Hale visits the small paper-making factory town of Lilla Edet.
7.00 Travel; The Birds of Dawning* by John Masefield. A serial in six parts (1).
7.30 Bookshelf. Radio 4's book programme.
8.00 Never Sing Louder Than Lovely. A protrait of Dame Isobel Baillie, who died in September last year aged 88.
8.45 The Hidden Years. The fourth of six extracts from the forthcoming novel by Neil Boyd: a compelling story about the early adult life of Jesus.
9.00 News– Kipps. The Story of a Simple Soul by H G Wells. Dramatized in five parts (2). 9.58 Weather.
10.00 News.
10.15 British Socialism Redefined? In the centenary year of the Fabian Society, David Watt presents his views of Socialism in Britain today.
11.00 An Unlikely Journey* (4) The Road.
11.15 Inside Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.
12.23 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.
ENGLAND VHF with above except: 6.45-7.45 am Open University: 6.45 Introduction to Calculus. 7.5 Shakespeare's History Plays. 7.25 Music Interlude. 1.55 pm Programme News. 4.00-6.00 Study on 4: 4.00 Staying in Business. 4.30 Get by in Portuguese. 5.00 L'italia dal Vivo. 5.30 !Digame!

Radio 3

7.55 Weather. 8.00 News.
8.05 Corelli's Opus.6. La Petite Bande with the No 7 and No 9 versions of the Concerto Grosso. Also Georg Muffat's Armonico Tributo. Toccata No 7.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Your Concert Choice: Vaughan Williams's Tuba Concerto, Janacek Suite for string orchestra, Bishop's Lo hear the gentle lark, Mozart Serenade in F, Liszt's Psalm 137, Beethoven Symph No 1.†
10.30 Music Weekly. Twentieth Century musical history, Joshua Rifkin's approach to the Bach B Min Mass and music in Albania today.†
11.20 From the Proms: Concert part one. BBC Philharmonic Orch, conductor Edward Downes, with Howard Shelley (piano). Elizabeth Maconchy's Music for Strings (first performance), and Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No 4.
12.05 Interval Reading.†
12.10 From the Proms: part two. Dvorak Symph No 6.†
1.00 Emmanuel Ax (piano) plays Haydn Sonata in C maj, Schoenberg's Six Little Pieces, Beethoven Sonata in D maj (Pastoral).†
2.00 Boccerini and Haydn. Salomon String Quartet on authentic instruments plays Boccherini's String Quartet in C and Haydn's in F.†
2.45 Balakirev's Symph No 1 in C, played by the Royal Philharmonic Orch, conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham (record).†
3.30 Oboe and piano. Works by Beaumont Bowes.†
4.05 Zoroastre: Jean-Philippe Rameau's five act opera, sung in the French 1756 version, to end Radio 3's celebration of Rameau's tercentary. Played by La Petite Bande, under Sigiswald Kuijken, with John Elwes in the title role. Acts one and two.†
5.25 The Aragon Enigma. Translator and historian Richard Mayne examines the life of Louis Aragon, surrealist, resistance leader and man of letters.
5.45 Zoroastre. Act 3.†
6.25 Interval Reading.
6.35 Zoroastre. Acts 4 and 5.†
7.55 Beethoven. Sonata in F min, Op. 57 (Appassionata), played by John Ogdon.†
8.15 The Trials of K. Patrick Carnegy looks at the life of Franz Kafka in the context of his book The Trial.
9.00 Wilhelm Furtwangler. First complete performance of the conductor/composer's third symph, completed in 1954. BBC Symph Orch, conducted by Brian Wright.†
10.15 For a Living. Works by the American poet Tess Gallagher†
10.35 Equale Brass. Works by Farnaby, Wilfred Josephs (first broadcast performance of Sonata for Brass Quintet), Alun Hoddinott†
11.15 News
VHF: Open University: 6.15, 6.55 7.55, 8.55 Modern Art-Baudelaire. 7.15 Three Perspectives on Personality. 7.35 The First Years of Life.

Radio 2

4.00am Martin Stanford† 6.00 Sheila Tracy† 7.30 Paul McDowell says Good Morning Sunday† incl 7.45 Bishop Bill Westwood. 9.00 David Jacobs with Melodies for You† 11.00 Desmond Carrington Radio 2 All-Time Greats† 12.30pm The Best of Bentine. The last of six programmes written and performed by Michael Bentine† incl. 12.59 Sports Desk. 1.00 Terry Wogan with Two's Best† 2.00 Benny Green† 3.00 Alan Dell with Sounds Easy† 4.00 String Sound with Jean Challis† 4.30 Sing Something Simple with the Cliff Adams Singers† 5.00 Charlie Chester with your Sunday Soapbox, incl. 5.58 Sports Desk. 6.00 Comedy Classics: The Men From The Ministry starring Richard Murdoch and Deryck Guyler. 6.30 Black Magic with Stanley Black. 7.00 Jenny Pitman has a word with Williams. Jenny Pitman talks to Gerald Williams about some of the achievements and setbacks of her career. 7.30 Grand Hotel. Max Jaffa and the Palm Court Orchestra. 8.30 Sunday Half-Hour from the Parish Church of St Paul, Carlton-in-the-Willows, Nottingham. 9.00 Your Hundred Best Tunes with Alan Keith, incl. 10.2 Sports Desk. 10.05 Marching and Waltzing with John Marsh. 11.00 Sounds of Jazz with Steve Voce. 1.00am Jean Challis presents Nightride† 3.00-4.00 Terry Wogan with Two's Best†

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Sunday Show. 10.00 Adrian Juste. 12.00 Jimmy Savile's Old Record Club. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 The Great Rock 'n' Roll Trivia Quizz. 5.00 Top 40 with Simon Bates.† 7.00 Anne Nightingale.† 9.00 Robbie Vincent with the delights of dance music.† 11.00-12.00 From Mento to Lovers' Rock. A history of Jamaican music 9: Some Aspects of the Lyrical Tradition.† VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 5.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00 With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 News About Britain. 7.15 From Our Own Correspondent. 7.30 The Seven Deadly Sins. 7.50 Recording of the Week. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The Pleasure's Yours. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 Science in Action. 9.45 Sports Review. 10.15 Classical Record Review. 10.30 Sunday Service. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 Letter From America. 12.00 Play of the Week. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Commentary. 1.15 Good Books. 1.30 Billy Budd. 1.45 The Sandi Jones Request Show. 2.30 The Doctor. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Concert Hall. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 From Our Own Correspondent. 4.35 Financial Review. 5.45 Letter from America. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Commentary. 8.15 Letterbox. 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours. 10.00 World News. 10.09 Science in Action. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Letter from America. 11.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Religious Service. 1.00 Past Impressions. 1.45 Rock Back the Clock. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Good Books. 2.30 Music Now. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 A Sense of Place. 3.30 Anything Goes. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Billy Budd 5.45 I Know It's Here Somewhere.
(All times in GMT)

BBC1 Wales 3.55pm-4.45 Sports Line-up (followed by news headlines), Rugby Union: Action from the game between Llanelli and Pontypool. Soccer: Round-up of the weekend's news and results. 10.05-10.45 Chris Stuart Cha Cha Chat Show. 10.45-11.25 Everyman: "Your Neighbour's Son – The Making of a Torturer" (as BBC1 10.05pm). 11.25-11.50 Phil Silvers as Sgt Bilko in "Bilko's Godson".* 11.50-12.20am The World of Cooking. 12.20 News and weather. Scotland 1.25pm-1.50 Can Seo. 6.40-7.15 Glory Be. 10.05-11.00 Mr Speaker, Sir! 11.00-11.40 Everyman: "Your Neighbour's Son – The Making of a Torturer" (as BBC1 10.05pm). 11.40 News and weather. Northern Ireland 11.40pm News and weather.

S4C Starts 1.00pm Ffermwyr. 1.05 Eastern Eye. 2.00 Davis Cup Tennis. 4.20 Wish You Were Here. 4.50 Mama Malone. 5.15 Sir William in Search of Xanadu. 6.15 Davis Cup Tennis. 7.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 7.20 Newyddion. 7.30 Hafod Henri. 8.00 Rhaglen Hywel Gwynfryn. 8.50 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol. 9.20 World At War. 10.15 Film: Mask of Dimitrios. 11.55 Seven Days. 12.25am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: Starts 9.30am Sesame Street. 10.30-11.00 Sport Billy. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Film: Donovan's Reef (John Wayne). 4.30 Scotsport. 5.30 Bullseye. 6.00-6.30 Jack Holburn. 11.30 World of James Michener. 12.30am Reflections, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TWS As London except: 9.30am-10.00 Getting On. 11.00 Me and My Camera. 11.25 Look and See. 11.30-12.00 South West Week. 1.00pm Gardens for All. 1.30-2.00 Farming News. 2.30 Liveline. 5.30 Bullseye. 6.00-6.30 Jack Holborn. 7.45-9.45 Film: Hireling. (Robert Shaw). 11.30 Big Match. 12.15am Postcript. Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.00 About Britain. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Here and Now. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15-4.30 Film: Black Swan (Tyrone Power). 5.30-6.30 Return of the Saint, 7.45-9.00 Film: Buck and the Preacher (Sydney Poitier). 11.30 England Their England. 12.00 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 9.25am-10.00 Getting On. 11.00 Me and My Camera. 11.30-12.00 Farming Diary. 1.00pm-1.15 Smurfs. 2.30 Film: Stolen Hours (Susan Hayward). 4.20-4.30 Cartoon. 5.30-6.30 We'll Meet Again. 11.30 Parting Gift. 12.30am Five Minutes, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: Starts 9.30am-10.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm At Ease. 1.25 Weather. 1.30-2.00 Farming Diary. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15 OED. 4.10-4.30 Cartoon. 5.30-6.30 Return of the Saint. 11.30 Harvest Jazz. 12.00 House Calls. 12.30 Follow my Leader, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: Starts 1.56pm-2.00 Starting Point. 2.30 Films: Nearest and Dearest, and A Cuckoo on the Nest. 5.30 Bullseye. 6.00-6.30 Jack Holborn. 7.45-9.45 Film: Hireling. 11.30 Big Match. 12.15am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 9.25am Cartoon. 9.35-10.00 Falcon Island. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 West Country Farming. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15-4.30 Film: Go West Young Girl (Karen Valentine). 5.30-6.30 Falcon Crest. 11.30 Roots of Rock'n'Roll. 12.30am Closedown. HTV WALES: No variation.

BORDER As London except: 9.25am Border Diary. 9.30-10.00 Land of Birds. 11.30 Me and My Camera. 11.55-12.00 Border Diary. 1.00pm Venture. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15-4.30 Film: Cover Girls. 5.30-6.30 Falcon Crest. 7.45-9.45 Film: Buck and the Preacher (Sidney Poitier). 11.30 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.35-10.00 My Life. 11.00 Me and My Camera. 11.25 Aap Kaa Hak. 11.30-12.00 This is Your Right. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Metal Mickey. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15 Cartoon. 3.30-4.30 Return of the Saint. 5.30-6.30 Battlestar Galactica. 7.45-9.45 Film: Biggest Bank Robbery (Richard Jordon. 11.30 That's Hollywood. 11.55 Jazz. 12.30am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 9.25am Cartoon. 9.30 Me and My Camera. 10.00-11.00 Sesame Street. 11.30-12.00 I'm Young But Special. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30 Farming Outlook. 2.00 Cross Current. 2.30 Canadian Wildlife. 2.45 Glen Michael Cavalcade. 3.30 Jack Holborn. 4.00 Bullseye. 4.30 Scotsport. 5.30-6.30 Falcon Crest. 7.45-9.45 Film: Two for the Road (Albert Finney) 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Shelley-12.05am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: Starts 11.00 Getting On. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Bygones. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15 Cartoon. 3.30-4.30 Little House on the Prairie. 5.30 Smurfs. 6.00-6.30 History of Grand Prix. 11.30 Hands. 12.30 Sports Results. 12.05am News, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25am Morning Glory. 9.30-10.00 Getting On. 11.00 Lookaround. 11.05 Stan and Ollie.* 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15 Extra Time. 4.00-4.30 Beverly Hillbillies.* 5.00-5.58 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Bullseye. 11.30 Mysteries of Edgar Wallace.* 12.30am Reg Guy Singers, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Farming Brief. 11.30-12.00 My Life. 1.00 University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Farming Diary. 2.30 Sunday Sports Club. 4.00-4.30 Benson. 5.30 News. 5.35-6.30 Battlestar Galactica. 12.00 Company, Closedown.

Airman in Cyprus 'leak' inquiry

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Intelligence officers in Cyprus are investigating possible security leaks involving young servicemen stationed at the British bases there.

The Ministry of Defence yesterday confirmed that a Senior Aircraftman of the Royal Air Force, whose name was not released, was "assisting the military authorities" investigating a possible unauthorized disclosure of official information. The investigations are said to be at an early stage, and it is not yet clear whether they will lead to a charge

Investigations into the matter, are said to have arisen after the aircraftman was lured into bed by a woman, possibly of Hungarian origin. These inquiries are said to have produced evidence of many approaches to young servicemen by women.

The Ministry of Defence refused to comment on suggestions of Russian-backed attempts to lure servicemen into compromising situations in order to extract official information from them.

Last year's Statement on the Defence Estimates gave the number of British servicemen in Cyprus as being 4,757, of whom 3,367 were soldiers, 1,375 airmen and 15 sailors. The 100 soldiers of the British contingent of the multinational peace-keeping force, who recently withdrew from Beirut, are now aboard the ship, RFA Reliant, off Cyprus.

Cyprus is an important communications and intelligence gathering centre covering large areas of the Middle East. If Russia is involved in attempts to subvert servicemen, their efforts would be likely to be concentrated on those involved in communications work.

Unita rebels hold 16 Britons in Angola

Continued from page 1

extracting high quality diamonds from its bed.

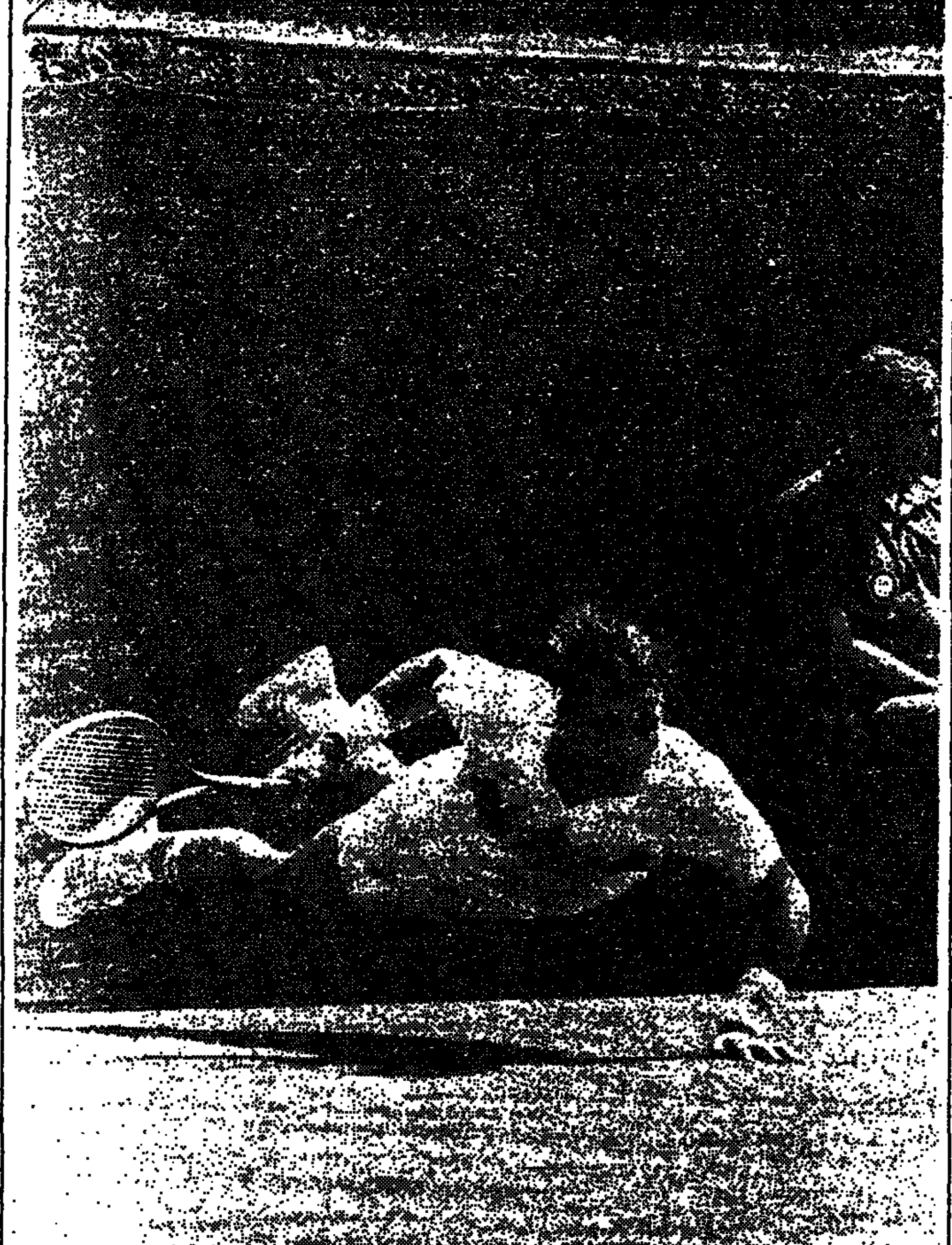
There are few other inhabitants in the area and the mine is linked to Dundo, the administrative centre of the diamond mining area, by a continual shuttle flight. It is supplied by a dirt road from Luanda and convoys of lorries have constantly been attacked on this raod by Unita guerrillas. In 1982 they blew up a bridge on this route and have continually threatened to attack the mines.



It is not clear whether the Unita guerrillas which attacked Kafunfu came over the boarder from Zaire, which offers them support, or whether they are one of the groups which have been infiltrating up the eastern border of Angola.

The attack seems to be an attempt by Unita to stake its claim to a part in the negotiations between Angola and South Africa which have led to the setting up of a joint commission to monitor a ceasefire

Ceasefire inquiry, page 6



Levitating Lendl: voted Sports Picture of the Year in a Sports Council and Royal Photographic Society competition. Chris Cole took the picture of Ivan Lendl for *The Times* at Queen's Club, London last summer with a Canon A1 camera (300mm lens, speed 1/1,000th, aperture F5.6) on Kodak Tri-X film.

Drivers end blockade in France

Continued from page 1.

on the centre-right of the Socialist party, is one of the most popular ministers in the Government, M Fiterman is a Communist. The Government, which at one time looked as though it was losing control of the situation, appears to have come well out of the dispute, demonstrating firmness with restraint and keeping its sang-froid throughout.

The European Commission announced in Brussels it will back owners' legal claims for compensation.

The six blockades still in place yesterday evening were at Quimper and Brest in Brittany; at Tartas and Melihan in the Landes; at Pouey-Lescarez in the Pryrenees Atlantiques; and at Bayau in the Nord Department.

Surprisingly few violent incidents have been reported considering the huge number of people affected by the dispute

A few incensed motorists tried to storm through the blockades. Two people died But most of the injuries or deaths were accidental. A British lorry was the cause of one such fatal accident fear Marseilles early yesterday morning.

At Sallanches, on the approach road to the Mont Blanc tunnel where the blockades had all been cleared, British drivers were toasting the caretaker of the local sports hall, M Michelle Astier and his wife Michelle, who accommodated dozens of them in conditions so bitter that some of their antifreeze liquid froze. Forty of them gave M Astier a carriage clock and his wife flowers to show their gratitude.

"If it had not been for the hospitality of these people quite possibly some of us would have frozen to death in our cabs", said Mr Jack Teather of Bradford.

British motorists were given the all clear yesterday to head for the continent this weekend

Patricia Clough in the Italian Alps

Juggernauts hit the long road home

Waving cheerly, Mr Tony Gover, of Southampton, headed his great juggernaut towards the Mont Blanc tunnel and home yesterday after the French lorry drivers lifted the blockade which had kept him and more than 20 British colleagues stranded at Courmayeur, on the French-Italian border for more than a week.

"All being well, I'll be home tomorrow morning," Mr Gover said.

He was among the first 50 lorry drivers allowed through the tunnel soon after 10am. Half an hour later, the first of another 50 sent through from the French side, drew up at the Italian customs post here.

"No one is going to be keeping to the speed limit today," said another British driver as he watched the first lorries leave. "We all want to be home as fast as possible."

Word that the blockade was breaking up spread like wild-fire among the drivers as they awoke in their icy cabins along the high mountain road.

The air soon became thick with choking clouds of diesel smoke from long-idle engines as the great lorries skidded and heaved in the filthy snow.

As a precaution against jams in the tunnel, French and Italian border police initially sent lorries rough in batches of 50, but by lunchtime, traffic was flowing normally.

Intense relief spread among the lorry drivers who has become extremely edgy as the blockade wore on and had begun demanding that the British Government fly them home. There was also relief among the 16 to 20 coach drivers who had been worried as to how they would get their large parties of schoolchildren home.

Among the first to leave yesterday were Mr Neil Cook and his co-driver, Mr Nicky Jones with their party of 40 children and 10 teachers from Ludlow.

"I don't know what we would have done if they hadn't lifted the blockade." Mr Cook said. "We were going to go through the St Bernardo Pass to Switzerland and back via Germany. But we just heard that the pass has been blocked by avalanches.

"We've heard that we can get all the way through France.

Some lorry drivers were biding their time for a few hours fearing that the road would be closed again and they would be trapped in France.

"I'm going to go ahead but if they stop me agian, I shall do something silly," said Mr Gerald Kelly, of London. "I've been here nine days, and I don't want to be stuck any longer."

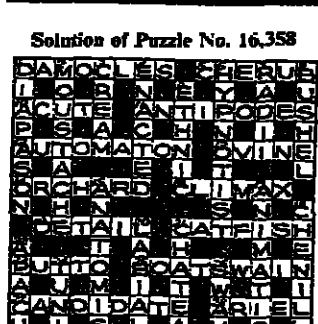
Down at the carabinieri station in Courmayeur, Mr Cyril Cole, the British Consul in Milan, was handing out money to drivers who had run short. "Their requests were very reasonable, the maximum was a hundred pounds."

Official regulations for lending money to stranded Britons – either to have the money deposited with the Foreign Office in London, or to exchange their passports for a temporary substitute – was waived. Instead, the drivers were being simply asked to sign an undertaking that they would repay the money.

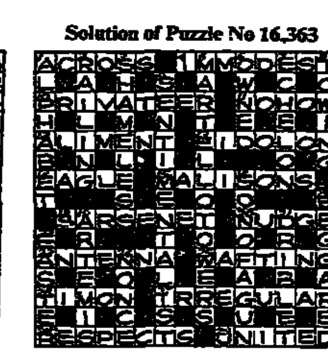
"What happens next is not my responsibility," Mr Cole said; the question of repayment would be sorted out in London. Some of the owner drivers had complained that the blockade was ruining them and that they had no money left.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No. 16,358



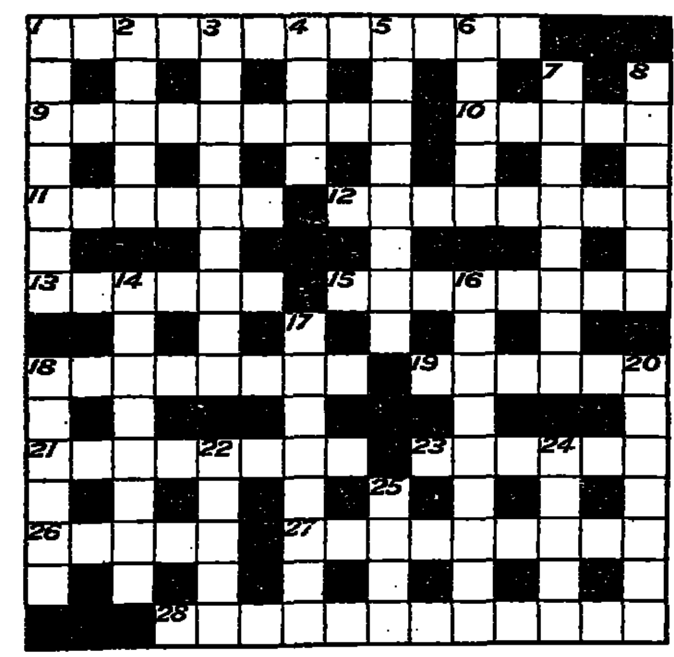
Solution of Puzzle No 16,363



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,364

Name

Address



ACROSS

1 Article in tree is, perhaps, initially an elusive thing (4-1-3-4).
9 Cling to this delicious oriental drink (9).
10 Where bad drivers can end up (5).
11 To do a favour in return, I'll accept one pound (6).
12 In other words, I am one sailor in a cutter (8).
13 Riddle whose meaning is heartlessly obscure (6).
15 Ball, in a manner of speaking (8).
18 What's left without a memento? (8).
19 Crush the spirit (6).
21 Dance with lout not a publicity stunt (8).
23 Smear with mud the bottom half of a U-boat (6).
26 Stray, wandering deity (5).
27 Travelling, I can take time with books (9).
28 Doctor is tipsy – chart needs rewriting (12).

DOWN

1 Engaging to lose the rest, by implication (7).
2 See the state of the place! (5).
3 Society members love to classify people (9).
4 Welcome shower (4).
5 Miserable, we would go outside to be ill (8).
6 Be off the point? Stuff! (5).
7 Answer to sum not right, not quite (8).
8 Lament about the lady in red (6).
14 I am second, not in time to offer a sacrifice (8).
16 Having been elected, Attlee was harsh (9).
17 Frenzied protest murderer put up (9).
18 Hardy is right to love sculpture (6).
20 Tabitha's moved home (7).
22 Look up about the sappers in battle (5).
24 Become entangled in first-rate fiddle (5).
25 Call for attention loudly, then one gets sound equipment (2-2).

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World *(comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr M. J. Goodman, 54 Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough. N. K. Willson, Grange Gardens House, Cambridge CB3 9AS; J C Hicks, 14 St Alban's Avenue, London W4.

Today's events

Royal engagements

Duchess of Gloucester carries out engagements in Liverpool; as Patron, National Association of Gifted Children visits Mersey & Wirral branch, Paddington Comprehensive School, arrives 10.45; and later opens Thirlmere Green Development, 12.10. At 12.55 Her Royal Highness visits Huyton College, Knowsley.

New exhibitions

Tim Whittaker – photographic exhibition: Museum of Lakeland Life Industry, Abbot Hall, **Kendal**, Cumbria: Mon to Fri 10.30 to 5.30, Sat and Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 22).

Shoes; and hand-made lace: both at Guildford House Gallery, 155 High Street, **Guildford**; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 4.50 (ends March 24).

Last chance to see

Printmakers, an exhibition of work by Cheryl Aaron, Anita Ford, Julia Wilson and Pat Schaverien, Playhouse Gallery, Harlow, Essex; Sat 11 to 8.

"Past Imperfect" - work by Marc Camille Chaimowicz; John Hansard Gallery, the University, **Southampton**; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun.

The Canadian Landscape: paintings selected from the Ontario Heritage Foundation: City Museum and Art Gallery, Drake Circus, *Plymouth:* Sat 10 to 6.

British Studio Glass. Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, **Glasgow**; Sat 10 to 5 (ends today).

Music

Concert by the Birmingham Bach Society, Birmingham Cathedral, **Birmingham**, 7.30.

Concert by the Wessex Chamber Choir. Bath Abbey **Bath**, 7.30.

Concert by the University Chamber Orchestra. Turner Sima Concert Hall, Southampton University, **Southamptom**, 8.

Concert by the Orchestra De Camera, Benn Hall, **Rugby**, 8.

Eleanor Wind Quintet, **Lavenham** Guildhall, Suffolk 7.30.

General

The 4th Bristol classic motorcycle show, Bristol Exhibition Centre, **Bristol**, 10 to 7, tomorrow 10 to 7, (until 26 Feb)

Turner and Constable Day School – one day conference of lectures and discussions on the work of the two artists, the Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, **Manchester**, 10 to 4.15.

Tomorrow

Royal engagements

Duchess of Gloucester, patron, Association for Spina Bifida and Hydro Cephalus, attends Night of a Hundred Stars, Theatre Road, Drury Lane, 6.45.

Last chance to see

75th annual Arts Club exhibition the Manor House, Castle Yard, Ilkley, Yorkshire; Tues to Sun 10 to 5 (ends today).

In the garden

The best time to propagate snowdrops and crocuses is while they are in bloom or after flowering, before the leaves die down. Lift the clump and divide it into individual bulbs and replant them. It is surprising how fast one can multiply these bulbs by division. It is a good time to tidy up flower beds and borders, removing the old, dead, cut-down stems of herbaceous plants and lightly loosening the soil with a hand fork.

Herbaceous plants may be lifted and divided now if one wishes to increase the stock. Michaelmas daisies are best lifted and divided about every three years. Take off and replant single shoots with plenty of roots. These divisions will produce large flower heads while the old clumps will produce progressively smaller flowers each year.

On fine days if you have the energy, give the lawn a vigorous raking with a wire rake to drag out dead grass and decayed grass mowings that have built up into a thick "thatch". Then, in early March, apply the first of two dressings of a general soluble fertilizer.

RH

National Day

Kuwait's National Day falls on the date of accession to the throne of Sheikh Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah in 1961. In June of the same year the state gained its full independence after more than 60 years as a British protectorate.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.62	1.54
Austria Sch	28.45	26.85
Belgium Fr	85.00	81.00
Canada $	1.88	1.81
Denmark Kr	14.70	14.00
Finland Mkk	8.69	8.29
France Fr	12.25	11.75
Germany DM	3.99	3.81
Greece Dr	164.00	154.00
Hongkong $	11.78	11.10
Ireland Pt	1.30	1.24
Italy Lira	2470.00	2370.00
Japan Yen	357.00	341.00
Netherlands Gld	4.53	4.31
Norway Kr	11.58	10.98
Portugal Esc	200.00	190.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	227.00	218.00
Sweden Kr	12.00	11.40
Switzerland Fr	3.31	3.14
USA $	1.51	1.46
Yugoslavia Dnr	211.00	201.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 342.6.

London: The *FT* index closed 8.9 up at 815.8.

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Roads

London and South-east: WC2: Large crane expected to cause some delays in the Strand. Wellington Road South, Bloomsbury closed due to sewer work; diversions. A4: Cromwell Road, British Telecom work on junction of Cromwell Road with Gloucester Road.

Midlands: A10: Traffic signals along St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire. A45: Roadworks on Coventry-Daventry road at Fosse Crossing, Warwickshire. A34: Temporary traffic signals located south of Newbold on Stour, Warwickshire.

Wales and West: A30: Resurfacing on westbound carriageway Camboure by-pass. A361: Single lane and temporary signals on Trowbridge to Hilperton road, Wiltshire. A35: Temporary traffic signals at Bow Bridge on Axminster to Honiton road at Loughwood.

North: A575: Egerton Street in Farnworth, Greater Manchester, is closed near junction with Gladstone Road; diversions. A19/A1046: Reconstruction work at Portrack roundabout, Cleveland, north of River Tees. A689: Remedial work to structure of Waskerley Bridge, Wolsignham, co Durham: traffic lights.

Scotland: A91: Single lane north side of St Andrews. A92: Single lane between A914 and A919 junction, south of Tay Road bridge, Fife. A92: Northbound carriageway closed, two ways on southbound; one mile north of Glenrothes, Fife. Care required.

Information supplied by AA

Anniversaries

Births: **Carlo Goldoni**, dramatist, Venice, 1707; **Pierre Renoir**, Imprssionist painter, Limoges, France, 1841; **Enrico Caruso**, Naples, 1873; **Dame Myra Hess**, pianist, London, 1890. Deaths: **Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex**, executed, London, 1601; **Sir Christopher Wren**, London, 1723; **Thomas Moore**, poet and musician, Devizes, Wiltshire, 1852; **Baron Paul Julius von Reuter**, founder of the news agency, Nice, 1899; **Sir John Tenniel** (born Feb 28, 1820), illustrator *(Alice's Adventures in Wonderland)*, and cartoonist for *Punch*, 1850-1901, London, 1914.

TOMORROW:

Births: **Victor Hugo**, Besancon, France, 1802; **William F. Cody**, (Buffalo Bill), Scott County, Iowa, 1846. Deaths: **Emile Coué**, pharmacist and psychotherapist (" every day, and in every way, I am becoming better and better"), Troyes, France, 1857; **Sir Harry Lauder**, Strathaven, 1950. First issue of £1 and £2 notes. The troopship, Birkenhead was wrecked in False Bay off Cape Town; 445 lives were lost of which 386 were soldiers who had paraded in military order on the decks, 1852.

OU leaflets

Leaflets on BBC Open University programmes are available to non-students who send a large stamped addressed envelope to Information Officer, BBC Open University Production Centre, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6BH.

Weather

A ridge of high pressure over England and Wales will extend slowly northwards.

6am to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Cloudy with isolated wintry showers; wind NE moderate, max temp 3 to 5C (37-41F).

Central S, SW, NW, central N, NE England, S N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Some overnight fog patches, rather cloudy, mainly dry, a few sunny intervals in sheltered areas; wind, variable of NE light; max 4 of 5C (39-41F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Cloudy with a little rain or drizzle in places; wind SW, mainly light; max temp 7 to 9C (45-48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: mainly cloudy but dry in northern and western districts; cloudy with outbreaks of sleet or snow in E and S.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea; Straits of Dover; English Channel (E): Sea rough or very rough. St George's Channel; Irish Sea: Wind light variable; sea smooth.

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
6.56 am	5.32 pm
Moon rises:	Moon sets:
3.29 am	11.05am

New moon: March 2.

TOMORROW

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
6.54 am	5.34 pm
Moon rises:	Moon sets:
4.31 am	11.52 am

New moon: March 2.

Lighting-up time

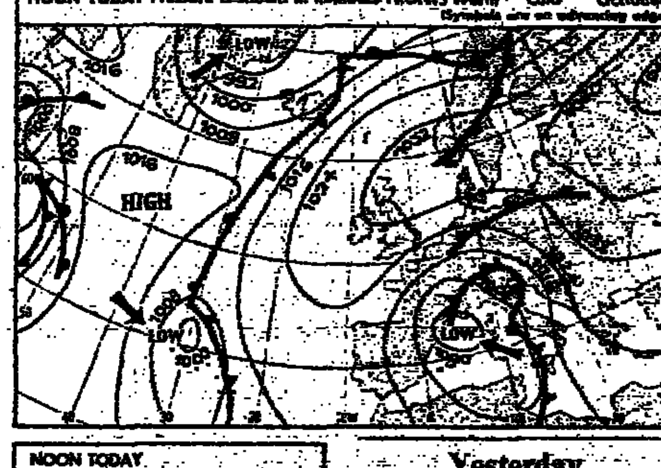
London 6.02 pm to 6.24 am
Bristol 6.12 pm to 6.34 am
Edinburgh 6.07 pm to 6.44 am
Manchester 6.07 pm to 6.36 am
Penzance 6.26 pm to 6.44 am

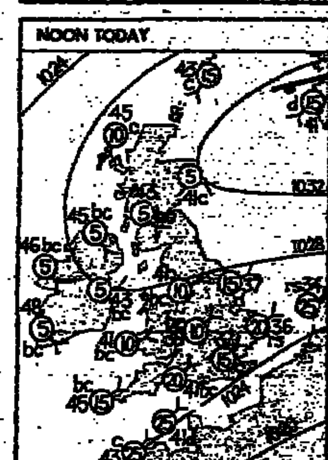
TOMORROW

London 6.04 pm to 6.22 am
Bristol 6.14 pm to 6.32 am
Edinburgh 6.09 pm to 6.41 am
Manchester 609x pm to 6.33 am
Penzance 6.28 pm to 6.42 am

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro			4	39	cloudy
Bridlington			5	41	cloudy
Cromer			3	37	dull
Lowestoft			3	37	cloudy
Clacton			3	37	cloudy
Margate					
Folkestone		.02	4	39	sleet pm
Hastings	0.1	.01	5	41	sleet pm
Eastbourne					
Brighton			2	36	cloudy
Worthing			4	39	cloudy
Littlehampton		.01	4	39	cloudy
Bognor R			5	41	dull
Southsea			5	41	cloudy
Shanklin			5	41	cloudy
Bournemouth	2.0		6	43	bright am
Poole	2.7		6	43	cloudy
Swanage	1.9		6	43	cloudy
Weymouth	5.5		6	43	bright
Exmouth	1.8		5	41	cloudy
Torquay	2.0		5	41	cloudy
Falmouth	5.5	.23	7	45	sunny
Penzance	3.0		7	45	bright
Jersey		.02	7	45	drizzle am
Guernsey			6	43	cloudy
Scilly Isles	0.1		7	45	cloudy
Newquay	2.6		8	46	cloudy
Ilfracombe	1.1	.01	8	46	bright
Tenby			5	41	cloudy
Southport			5	41	cloudy
Morecambe			5	41	dull
Douglas		.09	4	39	rain
London (Cntl)					
B'ham (Airpt)					
Bristol (Cntl)					





Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	5	41	Guernsey	sl	4	39
Birmingham	c	3	37	Inverness	c	7	45
Blackpool	c	5	41	Jersey	c	4	39
Bristol	c	4	39	London	c	4	39
Cardiff	r	4	39	Manchester	c	4	39

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 68 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1032 millibars rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Stornoway 10C (50F); lowest day max: Brighton 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Kirkwall 0.67in; highest sunshine: Weymouth, Falmouth 5.5hr.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.59	6.2	8.36	6.0
Aberdeen	8.09	3.2	8.55	3.3
Avonmouth	12.57	10.5	1.28	10.1
Belfast	5.42	2.9	6.24	3.0
Cardiff	12.42	9.6	1.13	9.4
Devonport			noon	4.3
Dover	5.20	5.5	6.07	5.2
Falmouth	11.30	4.1		
Glasgow	6.58	4.1	7.19	4.1
Harwich	6.03	3.3	6.48	3.1
Holyhead	4.56	4.4	5.49	4.3
Hull	12.15	6.2	12.57	5.9
Ilfracombe			12.31	8.7
Leith	9.24	4.5	10.05	4.6
Liverpool	5.38	7.4	6.17	7.2
Lowestoft	3.53	2.2	4.41	1.9
Margate	6.08	4.1	6.52	3.8
Milford Haven	12.15	6.3	12.53	5.2
Newquay	11.53	5.3		
Oban			1.45	2.7
Penzance	11.20	4.8		

TOMORROW

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.14	5.9	9.53	5.8
Aberdeen	9.29	3.2	10.20	3.3
Avonmouth	2.13	9.8	2.56	9.8
Belfast	7.4	2.8	7.41	2.9
Cardiff	1.58	9.2	2.41	9.1
Devonport	12.48	4.3	1.37	4.1
Dover	6.48	5.3	7.33	5.2
Falmouth	12.18	4.1	1.7	3.9
Glasgow	8.24	3.9	08.49	3.9
Harwich	7.29	3.2	8.7	3.1
Holyhead	6.29	4.4	7.21	4.4
Hull	1.40	5.9	2.19	5.9
Ilfracombe	1.20	8.7	2.8	8.6
Leith	10.44	4.5	11.28	4.6
Liverpool	7.0	7.2	7.49	7.2
Lowestoft	5.13	2.1	5.50	2.0
Margate	7.33	3.9	8.13	3.8
Milford Haven	1.42	5.1	2.30	5.1
Newquay	12.42	5.2	1.29	5.2
Oban	2.28	2.9	3.20	2.8
Penzance	12.5	4.3	12.51	4.1

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; th, thunder; dr, drizzle; d, dull.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	8	46	Copenhgn	sn	1	34	Majorca	f	10	50	Rio de Jan*	s	30	86
Akrotiri	s	20	68	Corfu	f	14	57	Malaga	s	13	55	Rome	f	13	55
Alexandria	s	20	68	Dallas*	s	19	66	Malta	s	17	63	Salzburg	f	5	41
Algiers	th	8	46	Dublin	dr	5	41	Melbourne	f	20	68	Sao Paulo*	c	31	88
Amsterdam	f	2	36	Dubrovnik	c	12	54	Mexico C	s	21	70	S Francisco*	s	11	52
Athens	f	15	59	Faro	s	13	55	Miami*	s	27	81	Santiago*	s	30	86
Bahrain	c	19	66	Florence	c	9	48	Milan	r	3	37	Seoul*	c	4	39
Barbados*	s	28	82	Frankfurt	c	2	36	Montreal*	f	0	32	Singapore*	th	26	79
Barcelona	f	10	50	Funchal	c	16	61	Moscow	s	-5	23	Stockholm	c	-1	30
Beirut				Geneva	c	2	36	Munich	c	1	34	Strasbourg	c	2	36
Belgrade	c	5	41	Gibraltar	s	14	57	Nairobi	s	28	82	Sydney	d	20	68
Berlin	sn	0	32	Helsinki	s	6	43	Naples	c	14	57	Tangier	s	11	52
Bermuda*	f	20	68	Hongkong*	c	18	64	New Delhi	s	14	57	Tel Aviv	s	24	75
Biarritz	c	5	41	Innsbruck*	f	0	32	New York*	s	11	52	Tenerife	c	17	63
Boulogne	c	2	36	Istanbul*	f	10	50	Nice	c	8	46	Tokyo*	s	8	46
Bordeaux	c	6	43	Jeddah*	s	27	81	Oslo	c	-3	27	Toronto*	s	14	57
Brussels	c	1	34	Jo'burg*	c	26	79	Ottawa				Tunis	f	15	59
Budapest	c	4	39	Karachi*	s	19	66	Paris	c	1	34	Valencia	f	12	54
B Aires*	f	28	82	Las Palmas	f	19	66	Peking*	sn	1	34	Vancouver*	f	4	39
Cairo	s	23	73	Lisbon	s	12	54	Perth*	c	23	73	Venice*	r	4	39
Cape Tn	s	23	73	Locarno	c	4	39	Prague*	c	-2	28	Vienna	f	2	36
C'blanca	f	14	57	L Angeles*	s	16	61	Reykjavik	c	7	45	Warsaw	sn	0	32
Chicago*	s	13	55	Luxembg	f	1	34	Rhodes*	s	17	63	Washington*	s	11	52
Cologne	c	2	36	Madrid	f	6	43	Riyadh*	s	28	82	Zurich	c	1	34

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available

